



12 PAGES OF SPORT

Rob Andrew on his successor, Mike Catt
PAGE 32

Colin McRae and the RAC Rally
PAGE 23



Triumph for the Princess

Disaster for the BBC
William Rees-Mogg
PAGE 18



Starting today

A parent's guide to the school league tables
PAGE 17



Why a 2p tax cut will not do for the middle-class husband

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY
ECONOMICS EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE would have to cut the standard rate of income tax by 8p in the pound to restore an average married male taxpayer to the position he briefly enjoyed in 1992-93 under the system announced by Norman Lamont just before the last general election — a system widely credited with helping the Conservatives to win.

Calculations by *The Times*, comparing those income tax schedules with the ones prevailing today, show that the increase in taxes on the married middle-class

homeowners of "Middle Britain" has been much bigger than generally appreciated.

Tory backbenchers are pressing the Chancellor to court this core constituency by announcing a cut of one or two pence in the standard rate of income tax in his Budget next week. But the *Times* figures show that the extra burdens imposed by the present parliament are too heavy to be lifted in a single Budget or even in a rolling programme of tax cuts to fulfill John Major's "long-term aspiration" of a 20p standard rate of income tax. The only way to move the married taxpayers of Middle Britain back towards their 1992

position would be for Mr Clarke to concentrate resources on marriage and mortgage allowances, rather than on more visible reductions in the headline rate of tax.

The *Times* calculations show that a married taxpayer on average male full-time earnings of £19,532 with a non-working wife and a mortgage of more than £30,000 now pays 25.3 per cent of his earnings in income tax and national insurance contributions, compared with 20.1 per cent in 1992-93. That difference means a loss of £1,016 in take-home pay, quite apart from all the extra taxes being paid by consumers on fuel bills, insur-

ance, petrol and tobacco. And it comes very close to the £1,250 "tax bombshell" which the Tories accused Labour of planning after the 1992 election.

If Mr Clarke cut the standard rate by 2p, the average earner's tax bill for next year would be reduced by £264, taking into account the likely growth in average earnings and the normal indexation of tax schedules and allowances. Even if the Chancellor could somehow find the money to slash the standard rate by 5p to 20p, the annual saving would still be only £659 — leaving the average married man almost £400 worse off than he would have been under the 1992 regime.

In fact, because of the way that personal allowances and lower-rate tax bands interact with the standard rate, the Chancellor would need to cut the standard rate by 8p to restore the £1,016 in take-home earnings.

A precise calculation taking into account the extra taxes levied on electricity, gas, insurance, petrol and tobacco — all of which have risen at unprecedented rates in the present Parliament — cannot be made because of the wide variations in consumption patterns. However it is clear that, under the present tax structure, there is no conceivable reduction in the standard rate that could restore married

middle-class people, even in the long term, to the position they enjoyed in 1992.

These figures show that if Mr Clarke were serious about helping these people, he would spend most of the money available to him on restoring the value of personal and marriage allowances and mortgage tax relief. These less visible features of the tax structure, which have been dramatically cut back since 1992, actually have more impact on middle-class tax bills than the "headline" standard rate.

Leading article, page 19
Middle-class tax, page 41

Hussey to intervene over Panorama

Palace row threatens to split BBC

BY ALAN HAMILTON AND ALEXANDRA FREAN

MARMADUKE HUSSEY, the BBC chairman, has been forced to re-examine the corporation's special relationship with Buckingham Palace in the wake of tonight's *Panorama* interview with the Princess of Wales.

The Princess's stipulation that the BBC should inform no-one about her appearance until after the programme had been made could cause a serious rift between the guardians of the BBC charter, led by Mr Hussey, and its programme makers, led by the Director-General John Birt.

The interview has caused intense embarrassment in the higher reaches of the BBC, and Mr Hussey indicated that he would make a public statement about the way the corporation handled the programme after it was screened to an expected audience of 15 million tonight. He said: "The governors cannot judge the programme or the context in which it has been made, until after it has been shown and been seen."

Palace officials remain incensed, not so much at the content of an hour-long interview they have not seen, as at the secrecy with which it was made, breaching an informal but long-standing agreement that the Queen is informed of any royal filming. Neither the Palace nor the BBC's board of

Public interest Page 3
Birt's gamble Page 18
Peter Riddell Page 18
Letters Page 19

governors — including Mr Hussey — knew of the programme until the Princess telephoned the Queen's private secretary last week.

But Tim Gardam, head of weekly programmes at BBC News and Current Affairs, says in an article in *The Times* today that it would have been wrong of the BBC or any other journalist to conduct the interview and then disregard the Princess's wish that the Palace should not be told.

Lord Wakeham, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, meanwhile gave a warning that the privacy sought by public figures — including the Princess — could be compromised if those same figures voluntarily brought their private lives into the public domain. "Those who do that may place themselves beyond the Press Complaints Commission's protection, and must bear the consequences of their actions," he said.

Last month Lord Wakeham was a guest at a dinner party where the Princess called for a privacy law to protect public

figures from media intrusion. He rejected her demands, and cautioned her against manipulating the media.

Lord Wakeham's stance is, however, challenged in a letter to *The Times* today from Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, who says he has no right to pronounce on the Princess unless he has received a specific complaint from her.

The *Panorama* interview itself is said to contain no dramatic revelations. Although the BBC dismissed Sunday newspaper reports of its content as speculation, it is clear that the Princess takes a positive stance, avoiding obvious recriminations against the Prince of Wales and advertising herself as a woman with a potential influential role to play as an unofficial ambassador for Britain.

Sources close to Mr Hussey said that reports that he is furious about the programme are wrong, although privately he wishes that it had never been made. Mr Hussey, whose wife is a lady-in-waiting to the Queen, believes it has placed him in an extremely delicate situation, for which normal BBC and Palace protocol has no exact rules.

BBC programme makers have denied keeping their chairman deliberately in the dark, arguing that they were following normal guidelines



The Queen leaving Sandringham Church yesterday morning. She will not watch *Panorama* tonight

which do not ordinarily require him to be informed of forthcoming programmes. Critics argue, however, that the Princess is not an ordinary person, and that the BBC has a special relationship with the monarchy which places special obligations upon it.

Supporters of the programme argue that if the BBC, believing that the Queen might veto all or part of the programme, had forewarned the Palace, the corporation

would have been party to silencing the Princess and suppressing freedom of speech. Tony Hall, managing director of BBC news and current affairs, yesterday defended the interview as a piece of responsible journalistic inquiry. It was a perfectly legitimate piece of work, and the Princess had a perfect right to tell her story, he said.

The BBC expects the biggest audience for any of its programmes since Mr Darcy

married Elizabeth, and certainly for any current affairs programme in recent memory. Among the few who will not be watching are the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, attending the Royal Variety Performance, the Prime Minister, attending the Lord Mayor's banquet at Guildhall, and the Princess herself, attending a cancer charity function. The Prince of Wales, however, has no official engagements between 9.40 and 10.40.

Suicide bomb kills 17 at embassy

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THREE rival Islamic groups claimed responsibility yesterday for a car bomb which wrecked the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, killing 17 people.

Two Egyptian diplomats were among those who died in the blast, believed to have been carried out by a suicide bomber in a van. A further 60 people were wounded. Windows of nearby buildings including some embassies were broken.

Claims of responsibility were received by international news organisations in Cairo from the Gamaa al-Islamiya (the Islamic Group), Jihad (holy war) and the International Justice Group.

Gamaa, which tried to kill President Mubarak of Egypt in Ethiopia in June, called within two hours of the blast to say it was responsible. Jihad, the group that assassinated President Sadat in 1981, also said it was behind the bombing. Jihad and Gamaa are believed to have co-operated in the past.

President Mubarak condemned the attack as "an evil crime" and sent a 15-man security team to Pakistan.

Embassy bomb, page 9

Walesa fights to hold power

Polish leader Lech Walesa was last night fighting hard to retain power after opinion surveys showed him to be running neck and neck with his ex-communist rival Aleksander Kwasniewski in the final round of presidential elections.

Early Polish television predictions gave the former solidarity chief a slight lead, with 51.1 per cent against Mr Kwasniewski's 48.9 per cent. Page 10

Building society puts its faith in sky-high finance

BY JOE JOSEPH

THE Abbey National has discovered the key to Britain's financial wellbeing: Kenneth Clarke, who is wrestling with his Budget speech, should study the stars. To make his life easier still, the Chancellor's nearest Abbey National branch can supply him with a booklet about stellar finance.

The secret is to forget about consulting Treasury mandarins, financial advisers or City economists. We should look instead to "the oldest source of wisdom in the world," says Abbey National, "the sky itself. Many of history's wealthiest men and women have had [or still have] a full time stargazer on their payroll!"

The 16-page booklet, entitled *Your Astrological Guide To A Secure Future*, offers financial tips for each Zodiac sign from astrologist Jonathan Cainer. Taurus, including the Pope, are wise investors of



Cainer: financial tips for signs of the Zodiac

"time, skill and money. So why is your bank balance usually about as buoyant as a Sumo wrestler on a surfboard? Because you cannot resist a bargain. It's on your mantelpiece that the testimony to your 'eye for value' can be found. If you ever get sorely strapped for cash, you'll just

have to put your prized collection up for auction." So if you hear of a few Vatican treasures going on sale at Sotheby's, blame Abbey National.

Leos "can spot a bargain at a thousand paces... but your idea of a 'great investment' is in anybody else's definition a big indulgence." Librans, like Baroness Thatcher, "have a handy ability to tip the scales of wealth so they fall in your favour. It often involves using your personal charm and good humour to persuade a would-be investor, customer or employer to pay over the odds for your goods and services just because they like you."

Does this mean that Abbey's investment fund managers and actuaries consult the stars when framing their strategy? Tina Bennett, an Abbey National spokeswoman, said: "Er, no, I'm afraid not. They're more scientific than that."

Major faces Tory revolt on currency

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JAMES LANDALE

JOHN MAJOR was warned last night that he faces a fresh bout of Conservative infighting over Europe if he makes a manifesto pledge to keep Britain out of a European single currency until 2002.

The Prime Minister, who has come under Euro-sceptic pressure to rule out a single currency during the next Parliament, faces a counter-attack by the pro-European wing of the party.

Senior Tories made clear that they would publicly disown any manifesto promise that would exclude Britain from the hard core of European states embarking on monetary union.

The threat of renewed internal warfare came on the eve of a keynote speech by Mr Major in which he will make clear that he will not be rushed into a decision on a single currency.

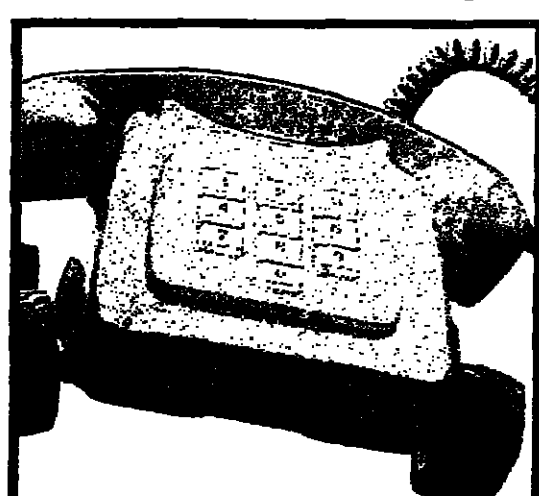
The Prime Minister will issue a warning about the

dangers of a hasty inauguration of monetary union by saying that its adoption by an inner core of EU countries could destroy the single market. In a speech to the Lord Mayor's banquet, Mr Major will make clear that European leaders should take time in considering the implications of the three "great issues", a single currency, enlargement and the issues of competitiveness and job creation.

However, pro-European Tories made clear their dismay at the party's shift towards the Euro-sceptic wing since Mr Major's re-election as leader in July and warned the Prime Minister that he faced a "showdown" if he took up calls to rule out a single currency.

Their anger comes against a background in which Mr Major's closest allies have called on him to make ruling out a single currency a key part of the Tories' general election

Continued on page 2, col 3



The better we get. The bigger we get.

By putting the customer first, Direct Line has become the largest private motor insurer ever in the UK. In the last year we've not only reduced the cost of insurance for most motorists, we've also improved our claims service. In fact 98% of customers who've had a claim would recommend our service to a friend. So, for a better deal, better call Direct Line.

0181 686 2468 0161 839 2468
LONDON MANCHESTER
0141 226 2468 0113 243 2468
GLASGOW LEEDS
0121 236 2468 0117 945 2468
BIRMINGHAM BRISTOL

DIRECT LINE
INSURANCE

A member of the Association of British Insurers and of the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau. Not available in Northern Ireland.

TV & RADIO 42, 43
WEATHER 22
CROSSWORDS 22, 44

LETTERS 19
OBITUARIES 21
WILLIAM REES-MOGG. 18

ARTS 14, 15
CHESS & BRIDGE 34
COURT & SOCIAL 20

SPORT 23-34
BODY & MIND 16
LAW REPORT 35

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

24-PAGE EDUCATION SPECIAL
The best and worst secondary schools in a full league table listing
PLUS: Libby Purves, Nigella Lawson, Interactive Team Football

SCHOOLS WEEK IN THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY

ESSENTIAL FASHION
Iain R. Webb, Fashion Journalist of the Year, on shiny chic
PLUS: Schools Week: how to select an independent school

THURSDAY

FILMS OF THE WEEK
Geoff Brown on Pierce Brosnan as the new Bond
PLUS: Schools Week: the smart options in state education

FRIDAY

POP
David Sinclair on the 'new' Beatles album
PLUS: Schools Week: single sex v coeducation

SATURDAY

FREE PENGUIN BOOKS
Start collecting vouchers to choose six free books from 120 titles in the Penguin 60s series
PLUS: 36-pages of Christmas food and drink, in the Magazine

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK WIN UP TO £5,000 WITH SCRABBLE

Make your **will** Don't delay - call on expert advice...

The Solicitors Trust, the national network of 200 local solicitors, can help you. Call FREE, anytime, on: **0500 010-010**

DON'T MISS OUT ON A TAX-FREE WAY TO PEP UP YOUR SAVINGS.

PHONE **0800 100 888**

Over 26,000 investors have opened our Growth PEP since its launch in March. If you'd like to find out why, simply call us free at a time convenient to you. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm or Saturday 8am to 4pm, just quote reference A363E. You'll find there's no hard sell, just clear, straightforward financial advice.

ABBEY NATIONAL DIRECT

FINANCIAL PLANNING

For your security and to assist in improving our service to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. Unit trust products are provided by Abbey National Unit Trust Managers Limited. The value of investments and any income from them may fall as well as rise, is not guaranteed and, therefore, you may not get back the full amount you invest. PEPs are subject to Inland Revenue rules and regulations which may change from time to time. Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London, NW1 6BT, United Kingdom. ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

Labour attempts to outflank Tories on income tax with timetable for cuts

Brown pledges basic tax rate of 10p

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN stepped up Labour's attempt to outmanoeuvre the Tories on taxation yesterday by setting out a provisional timetable for his plans to cut the starting rate of income tax to 10p in the pound.

As the Shadow Chancellor came under heavy criticism from Cabinet ministers and some tax experts, he made clear that the proposal to drop the lowest level of tax from 20p to 10p would be achievable within Labour's first term of government. Senior Labour figures also insisted that Mr Brown's "long-term objective" of reducing the starting rate of tax to 10p would be implemented within a decade, under a second term of government.

The Shadow Chancellor will use a keynote speech today to draw clear divisions between Labour and the

Conservatives over their policies to reduce taxation. He will make clear that Labour's tax-cutting proposals would apply to all taxpayers, while John Major's long-term aim of abolishing capital gains and inheritance tax would benefit only a tiny number of people.

Mr Brown will tell his audience in London: "Nothing could better illustrate the problems with the Conservative approach to tax. This proposal is unfair, since half the benefit of this tax cut will go to just 5,000 of the richest people in Britain."

He said that his proposals, which would eventually make all taxpayers £6 a week better off, were more "ethical" than those of the Tories which would cost the Treasury almost £5 billion but would benefit only 16,000 people.

Yesterday, Mr Brown tried to head off Tory claims that introducing a 10p rate would cost more than £6 billion

and would be unaffordable. However, Labour sources pointed out that the 10p tax level might not extend as wide as the present £3,200 of taxable income on which the lowest level of tax is charged at 20p.

Labour leaders believe the announcement will mark clear differences between their plans and those of the Government, against accusations that Tony Blair's party has proved unable to prepare distinctive tax policies. Mr Brown made clear that the tax cuts would be made alongside plans for gradual adjustments in housing benefit and family credit so that people would not lose out as they took up jobs.

The move came as Mr Brown was yesterday forced to fight off reports that he suffered heavy criticism from shadow cabinet colleagues over his decision to announce plans to force young unemployed to join work training schemes. Front-benchers at

the meeting said that the Shadow Chancellor had faced criticism for unveiling his proposals through a newspaper interview without fully consulting colleagues.

Labour's tax announcement was a clear attempt to pre-empt next week's Budget in which Kenneth Clarke is expected to offer substantial tax cuts. Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, said on BBC Radio's *World at One*: "Labour these days are all about soundbites that are designed to create an impression while the reality lies elsewhere. Nobody in the country believes they are capable of resisting their spending instincts so as to afford tax cuts."

Andrew Dilnot, director of the Institute of Fiscal Studies, branded the new tax plans as a "gimmick. I think there is no question... that if Gordon Brown is serious about trying to do the best for those on low incomes through the tax system, he

should use any money he has got to increase the tax allowances. There is no doubt that that will be more effective."

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, attacked Mr Brown's proposals as the "politics of motherhood and apple-pie. Everyone is in favour of it. What matters is what they will actually do. Labour are so trapped by their past record on tax that they won't commit themselves to anything."

John Major will tonight challenge Labour's attempt to seize the initiative on taxation by underlining that Tories remain the party of low taxation. In a speech to the Lord Mayor's Banquet in London, Mr Major will emphasise the importance of cutting taxes to levels that exist in competing countries, especially the Pacific Rim nations.

Leading article, page 19

Pledge on currency stirs Tories

Continued from page 1
campaign strategy. Peter Temple-Morris, a leading member of the Positive European Group of Tory backbenchers, said that up to 20 colleagues would publicly oppose any move to fight an election campaign on such a manifesto pledge.

"I would feel obliged publicly - because I feel very strongly about it and others would, I think, do the same thing - to disown that part of the manifesto," he said. "You are reaching up to certainly double figures that would dissociate themselves, 10 to 20 perhaps in varying degrees of intensity, from the manifesto."

Other pro-European Tories went further and said that Mr Temple-Morris was understating the number of potential rebels. "The number of MPs who would be outraged and make trouble would be bigger," said one leading supporter of a single currency. "More than 20 would refuse to have anything to do with it."

He said that the Tory Right's new demand for a manifesto commitment against a single currency was a clear breach of the "ceasefire agreement" between the pro- and anti-Europeans carved out after the leadership election.

Another pro-Europe Tory MP said that if joining a single currency was ruled out in the manifesto, "then it is show-down time. That is the Rubicon."

Close colleagues of the Prime Minister said last night that it would not be unusual to fight an election on a European platform that was opposed by some MPs.

However, they pointed to a newspaper interview last week in which Mr Major had made clear that he did not want to rule out a single currency as such a move would damage Britain's influence in Europe.



Star role: Kelly Hunter, 31, whose roles have ranged from Royal Shakespeare Company productions to the television thriller *Prime Suspect 3*, pictured yesterday after being named best actress at the Theatre Awards in Birmingham

Dublin cautious on Major's new peace initiative

By NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Irish Government and Sinn Féin responded coolly yesterday to John Major's latest proposals on the peace process, which were studied over the weekend by John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister.

A senior Irish source expressed concern that Britain appeared to be sticking to its insistence that the IRA decommission some arms before all-party talks. Sinn Féin has rejected the demand and the Irish source made clear that Dublin would not launch any Anglo-Irish initiative without the support of Sinn Féin.

Mr Major's proposals include:
□ setting a target date for the start of all-party talks including Sinn Féin;
□ allowing Sinn Féin to raise its concerns about the British Army and the RUC with a proposed international disarmament commission;
□ excluding from the remit of the commission the "Washington Three" principle, which calls on the IRA to decommission some of its arms before all-party talks.

Dublin was encouraged by the second proposal because, another Irish source said, it indicated that Britain was prepared to allow Sinn Féin to hold discussions with the commission within the context of demilitarisation - Sinn Féin's

word for describing the disarming of all "armed groups". The source made clear, however, that there could be little progress until Britain relaxed its stance on the "Washington Three" principle.

The source said last night: "There are some promising things in the proposals, but there are other areas that need further work. We will spend the next few days considering whether the whole of Mr Major's package offers a way forward."

Martin McGuinness, who has been leading Sinn Féin's talks with the Government, complained in the wake of reports that the Prime Minister is planning to emphasise Unionist proposals to establish an elected convention to discuss Northern Ireland's political future. In an interview on BBC's *On the Record*, Mr McGuinness said: "At this point in time we are seeing the British Government running quite actively on a Unionist agenda and giving succour to their proposals. This effectively makes sure that the whole approach of the twin track is one which is loaded completely with British Government and Unionist vetoes."

A senior republican source said there could be no movement until Britain dropped "Washington Three".

Bruton plea for voters to end ban on divorce

JOHN BRUTON, the Irish Prime Minister, yesterday called for a "yes" vote in this week's referendum on whether divorce should be legalised (Nicholas Watt writes).

The Taoiseach told the RTE radio station that a defeat for legalisation would damage his efforts for reconciliation in Northern Ireland. Many Unionists believe that the Republic's constitutional ban on divorce reflects the power of the Roman Catholic Church.

During a lengthy interview, Mr Bruton said: "The institution of marriage will actually be more damaged by a 'no' vote. It will be a setback for everybody in this country, it will be a setback for the 80,000 people who would like to know they could be free to remarry."

There is growing concern within the Government that it could lose Friday's referendum. The latest poll showed that support for a "yes" vote had slumped to 47 per cent from 61 per cent in October. Before the last referendum in 1986 the "yes" vote fell sharply and opponents of divorce won with 63.1 per cent of the vote.

Every political party represented in the Dail is campaigning for the ban on divorce to be ended. But anti-divorce groups have issued warnings that this would lead to the breakdown of the Irish family. They are backed by the Roman Catholic Irish Bishops' Conference.

Man, 19, accused of killing Naomi Smith

A man was charged yesterday with the murder of Naomi Smith, Edwin Hopkins, 19, of Anley Common, Warwickshire, will appear before Nuneaton magistrates this morning.

Police released a man aged 45 and a 42-year-old woman who were also being questioned in connection with the murder. They are on bail pending further inquiries into offences of assisting an offender, police said.

Naomi, 15, was found stabbed and mutilated 200 yards from her home in Anley Common on September 14. Her father, Brian, 45, and her best friend Emma Jones discovered her body lying beneath a slide at a children's playground. Naomi had gone out that evening to post a letter but never returned home. DNA samples were taken from up to 800 men in the hunt for the killer.

Suspicious fire kills four

A fire that killed four people, injured two others and gutted flats above a 24-hour grocery is being treated as suspicious by police. Firefighters, who took two hours to control the blaze, found the bodies of two women and a man in a third-floor flat above the shop on Shepherds Bush Green, west London. Three others - two men and a woman - leapt from a first-floor window on to the shop awning, but one man died in hospital. One survivor has a broken wrist and the other minor burns and back injuries.

Queen Mother rests

Prince Edward visited Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother yesterday at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers where she was "continuing to recuperate" after her hip replacement operation last Thursday, Buckingham Palace said. She exercised with the help of a physiotherapist but otherwise spent a quiet day. The Prince of Wales visited on Saturday and said his grandmother was in "excellent spirits". The Queen, who was at Sandringham yesterday, is expected at the hospital today.

Hard day's night for fans

Beatle fans were up before dawn today to hear the group's first single for 25 years. *Free as a Bird* is taken from the heavily hyped new album *Anthology 1*, copies of which arrived from Holland under guard at the famous Abbey Road studios at 3am. The song was expected to be on the air within an hour. Shops in London and Liverpool will open at midnight to sell the album, which goes on general release tomorrow morning. Worldwide orders have topped five million, according to the record company Parlophone.

Drugs girl collapses

A teenage girl was comfortable in intensive care in Perth Royal Infirmary last night after collapsing when she took drugs in a club on Saturday night. The 17-year-old, whose parents asked for her name not to be released, is believed to have taken an amphetamine-based white powder.

Police investigating the death of Leah Betts, who died last week after taking Ecstasy, are questioning four people after seizing 900 tablets of the drug in a raid on a cafe in Brentwood, Essex, after a tip-off.

QE2 hygiene criticised

The QE2 suffered another blow to its reputation yesterday with the leak of documents criticising hygiene standards. The latest embarrassment comes a year after the cruise liner was declared unfit to sail after a £30 million refit. An inspection by the Southampton Port Authority on October 15 found the kitchen of the Queen's Grill Lounge unsatisfactory and served a legal notice on the ship's owners, Trafalgar House, demanding a change to the ship's management practices relating to public health standards.

Darcy's shirt costs £500

The shirt a million women wanted to unbutton attracted few women to the BBC in Wood Lane, west London, where the garment worn by Colin Firth as Mr Darcy, haughty hero in its recent *Pride and Prejudice* production, was auctioned for £500 to an anonymous female fan. The BBC's Children in Need sale raised £1,100. Items doing less well included an outfit worn by Julie Goodyear - Bet Lynch in *Coronation Street* (£48). The former madam Cynthia Payne's riding crop and high-heeled shoes fetched £50.

Civil Service ready for Blair, says Sir Robin

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

SIR ROBIN BUTLER, the Cabinet Secretary, has started a charm offensive aimed at convincing Tony Blair that a Labour administration would have nothing to fear from the senior Civil Service and should keep him at its head.

More than 16 years of Conservative government had not politicised the Civil Service, Sir Robin told *The Times*. In a frank interview, the Prime Minister's senior adviser said that he hoped to keep his job under a Labour government: if he were removed it would undermine the tradition of Civil Service impartiality.

The interview took place immediately after Sir Robin had listened to Derek Foster, Labour's public service spokesman, tell a conference

that an incoming Labour government would want a rejuvenated Civil Service, starting at the very top. Mr Foster said: "Civil servants will be judged by their willingness to embrace change."

In what Sir Robin described as "a rare foray" into the public arena, he said: "If there is a change of government, the Civil Service will want to prove it is as committed to a new government as it has been to past governments."

Moving to dispel traditional Labour fears that the Civil Service is inherently conservative and has not remained immune to the philosophy of the present Government, Sir Robin said: "Politicians who start from a very strong ideological view find it difficult to



Sir Robin: strong defence of Whitehall

understand the Civil Service mentality. They find it difficult to understand that people can work for an ideological government and not share its views."

Sir Robin, 57, has just over

two years until retirement, which would take him through to the other side of a general election. There has been speculation that a Labour government will want to oust him swiftly. Some Labour figures have openly accused him of being too closely identified with Margaret Thatcher and now John Major.

Sir Robin said: "If my position wasn't acceptable to an incoming government, that would weaken the tradition of impartiality."

Sir Robin said he hoped a Labour government would take "a bit of time" to look around and appoint a successor when he retired. Any government, whether headed by Mr Major or Mr Blair, would receive only frank and honest advice. "It can never be for the Cabinet Secretary or

any other official to say 'you can't do that'. Our role is advisory."

Sir Robin suggested there was a danger that greater public accountability meant civil servants' actions could be misinterpreted as political bias. While he welcomed greater scrutiny he said: "Because the Civil Service has to work for the government of the day, they are asked to expound government policy. But that can be misinterpreted as defending and justifying government policy."

The reception room outside Sir Robin's private office is the model for Sir Humphrey Appleby's room in *Yes Prime Minister*. He conceded: "There are moments when I am sitting here and I think this is very near *Yes Minister* or *Yes Prime Minister*."

Burns festival hit by troubles that dogged poet's life

By Gillian Bowditch
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A FESTIVAL marking the bicentenary of Robert Burns's death has been thrown into disarray by the two elements that vexed Scotland's national poet during his life: sex and money.

The Burns International Festival, a year-long, Scotland-wide celebration whose patron is the Princess Royal, is £100,000 short of funds despite being due to start in less than eight weeks. Finding sponsors has not been helped by the disappearance of its chairman, Eric Rowe.

Mr Rowe, who had been the councillor for Mauchline in Strathclyde for seven years, left his wife and children and disappeared with another woman several weeks ago. He left the day after the Princess Royal unveiled a statue of Burns and formally launched the event, the biggest Burns festival yet. After several weeks, when none of his colleagues knew where he was, he wrote to resign his post.

The festival, which is being promoted internationally by the Scottish Tourist Board, has been dogged by controversy. It has been criticised for being slow off the mark, inadequate planning and failing to consult local organisations. The organisation of some events has been left to the last minute.

The post of chairman has now been filled by Donald

SCOTCH DRINK

*Gie him strong drink until he wink.
That's sinking in despair.
An' liquor guid to fire his bluid.
That's prest wi' grief an' care.
There let him browse, an' deep carouse.
Wi' bumpers flowing o'er.
Till he forgets his loves and debts.
An' minds his griefs no more.*

ROBERT BURNS

Urquhart, a councillor for Nithsdale, Dumfries and Galloway, but the burden of the organisation has been shouldered by John Struthers, a former director of the Exeter & Devon Arts Centre.

Critics say he has done as well as can be expected with the limited resources, but planning for a festival of this magnitude should have started years ago.

One highly respected figure in the Scottish arts scene said: "John Struthers is a one-man band trying to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds of sponsorship for a whole year of events. He just does not have the staff he needs."

"This sort of festival needs years of advanced planning. By June this year there was very little in the bag. If it is billed as an international festival and tourists are being urged to come from abroad then there has to be enough high quality events," he added.

"People have to feel they are getting value for money. You can't promise the earth and

then not deliver the goods. I don't think the festival will be strong enough to pull in tourists on its own."

Ken Bruce, a senior consultant with Barkers Scotland, which is handling festival publicity, said there had been problems but he denied that Mr Rowe's sudden departure has caused potential sponsors to think again.

"We already have £150,000 worth of sponsorship and we are talking to five or six companies at present. As far as Mr Rowe's departure is concerned, it's business as usual."

"There have been criticisms and I think it is fair to say with hindsight we were slow to start but we are now in full swing. I am very confident we will get the necessary sponsorship," he said.

There is also some concern about the quality of the events. The festival has yet to secure a big-name star although it is in negotiations with Billy Connolly and the Scottish band Runrig.

On Burns night itself — January 25 — there will be a "worldwide Burns supper" with representatives of the many hundreds of Burns societies invited to Ayr to partake of haggis and a dram. The venue will be linked by satellite with Burns suppers taking place around the world.

The Scottish Tourist Board is distributing more than one million leaflets to advertise the festival worldwide and hoteliers are being sent on Burns awareness courses.

Despite all the efforts, critics believe the festival is unlikely to attract the £4 million of extra revenue to Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway which the organisers are predicting.



The Morley children, who are members of Sutton Community Music Centre band, which does charitable work, and play classical music individually

Discord over sound of music

By Helen Johnstone

FIVE young musicians who play for charity are being taken to court by a neighbour to stop their daily practising at home.

The Morley children, Samantha, 17, Elizabeth, 13, Kathryn, 10, Michael, 8, and Steven, 4, from St Helens, Merseyside, play a variety of instruments including the

guitar, saxophone, drums, clarinet and cornet. They agreed to practise for just one hour a day after their neighbour Michelle Morley (no relation) complained to noise-pollution officials.

Their children's parents, Alan and Barbara, built a double-glazed conservatory onto their house to contain the

sound. Miss Morley is seeking an injunction to stop them practising after claiming they had broken the agreement.

A spokesman for St Helens council confirmed that, over a two-day study, the children had not played outside the designated times. The case is to be heard at St Helens County Court tomorrow.



Barbara and Alan Morley: have built a conservatory

Amis offered chance to rewrite awards saga

By Dalya Alberge
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

JUST weeks after his book about a failed novelist was rejected by the Booker Prize judges, Martin Amis has been shortlisted for the Whitbread Novel Award. He will, however, face stiff competition from the eventual winner of the Booker: Pat Barker, Salman Rushdie and Justin Cartwright were also shortlisted.

Amis nearly missed out on the Whitbread shortlist, too. The three judges were passionately divided over whether to include *The Information*, for which he earned a £500,000 advance. "It was the most contentious book on the list," one source said. They

argued over whether it was "too clever and opaque".

The book received mixed reviews but its exclusion from the Booker shortlist shocked the literary world. The judges were accused of snubbing Amis in limiting their list to just five names instead of the usual six.

The fight for the £21,000 Whitbread award is therefore expected to be between Barker's *The Ghost Road*, a story of death and sex in the First World War trenches, and Rushdie's *The Moor's Last Sigh*, a tragicomic story set in modern India and Moorish Granada. Rushdie won the 1988 Whitbread Novel Award for *The Satanic Verses*.

Cartwright, who has been nominat-

ed for *In Every Face I Meet*, once said that he had been shortlisted for so many prizes, his health was suffering from constant tantalisation.

The second-most contentious title on the Whitbread shortlist, according to the source, was Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Unconsolable*, which inspired such scathing reviews that the novelist Anita Brookner penned a vigorous defence in *The Spectator*. Hearing news of its Whitbread selection yesterday, Brookner said: "I'm delighted. It is one of the most original novels produced this year, too original for many of the critics to respond."

One of the Whitbread judges, Joe Sinyor, managing director of Dillons bookstores, said: "It is a terrifically

strong list, better than for several years. We all thought the range and diversity of the books was very stimulating." He described Barker's novel as "a wonderful read, with a fine eye for detail", and Rushdie's as a "mindblowing book which will live on in the memory". The other judges are Candia McWilliam, the author, and Miriam Gross, literary editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*.

The shortlist for the other four categories in the twenty-fifth Whitbread literary awards will be announced this week. The winners will be announced on January 4, and the overall Book of the Year on January 23.

First Novel Award, page 15



Rowe: disappeared with another woman



Burns: bicentenary of his death

Lincoln sued over 'sex harassment'

By Andrew Pierce

A WOMAN verger who alleged that she had an affair with the Dean of Lincoln will reopen the bitter controversy when she claims sexual harassment at an industrial tribunal.

Verity Freestone, 32, who has now left the Church of England and no longer considers herself a Christian, will be seeking compensation from her former employers at Lincoln Cathedral.

The move was disclosed yesterday hours after the Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Rev Robert Hardy, threatened to resign if a solution could not be found to continuing turmoil surrounding the dean, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson.

At Sunday service yesterday, Mr Jackson, 61, was buoyed by messages of support from the congregation. Last night he said: "I have never dreamt of resigning. I shall stay." The dean, who claims he has remained the

target of "intrigue in the chapter" will vigorously contest the latest claim.

In July, he was cleared by a consistory court of "conduct unbecoming Holy Orders" after Miss Freestone claimed that they had a sexual relationship. Miss Freestone, who has instructed solicitors to act

on her behalf, is suing the dean and chapter because she claims she was forced to leave her job as verger because of sexual harassment.

Mr Jackson, who is married with three children, denied her claims that they had an eight-week affair between October and December 1993. He

told the consistory hearing that he might have blown down her neck "for a joke" during a church procession, and might have hugged Miss Freestone at the deanery.

He told the court: "She was desperately in need of physical affection. An arm round the shoulder is almost a pastoral necessity. Jesus touched people."

Miss Freestone, now a nursing home care assistant, took up her post as verger in April 1993. She left in July the same year. Gilbert Blades, her solicitor, yesterday confirmed she was taking the dean and chapter to a tribunal, but declined to comment further.

The dean, a former provost of Bradford, was appointed to the Lincoln post in 1989 by Margaret Thatcher. A bishop is appointed by the Queen and has jurisdiction over the diocese but not the cathedral.

The minister's governing body, the General Chapter, is expected to meet in the new year to discuss the position.



Freestone: claims she was forced out



Jackson: cleared of "conduct unbecoming"

Princess interview interests public but is also in the public interest

By Tim Gardam

IT WAS inevitable that the *Panorama* interview with the Princess of Wales should face questions — not only about what it contains, but also about whether it should ever have happened.

In recent years, covering the sad story of the breakdown of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales has not proved easy for BBC journalists. No other story has been so infected with unattributable and unverifiable exclusives, a mill of unsubstantiated and often surreal tittle-tattle.

It is not the stuff of which a reputation for trusted, accurate and impartial journalism is made. Yet out of this labyrinth there has emerged a serious and unsettling debate about the role of some members of the Royal Family and the future relationship of the monarchy to the nation. Such issues are clearly central to the BBC's editorial

purpose and, if there is a criticism of the BBC, it may be that for too long it allowed these important questions to be considered elsewhere, largely in the idiom of the tabloid press.

Tonight's interview allows the Princess of Wales to speak for herself and to be asked questions which she can answer directly. It offers a basis for serious-minded

one stage, she announced she would retreat into private life, now she is to be "an ambassador" for her country. The unresolved questions about the Princess's public role and the future of her marriage are indivisible.

There are serious matters and appropriate questions for a responsible journalist to consider. When Martin Bashir began to research a

story on the future status of the royal marriage and its implications, he scarcely expected the Princess of Wales to grant him an interview. As any good journalist — and I know of few better — he set out to focus on what was of significance and to get to the heart of the issue.

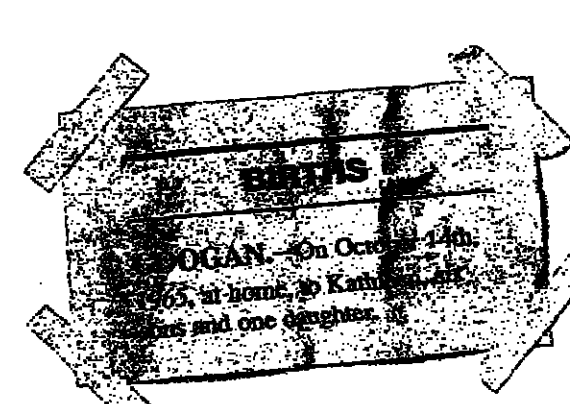
The Princess set no editorial conditions and made it clear that she wished herself to inform the Palace of the interview, and that she did

not wish to do so until the interview had taken place. This is a decision that she made on her own account and it would have been quite wrong for the BBC or any other journalist to do the interview and then disregard her. Once she had informed the Palace, the BBC immediately did the same.

The interview allows the Princess to put her side of her story. It also asks her to respond to questions about her future role and conduct in public life, to criticism of her responsibility in the damage done to the monarchy, and the consequences this may have for its future. Tonight, everyone can make their own judgment on the programme.

□ The author is the BBC's Head of Weekly Programmes, News and Current Affairs.

William Rees-Mogg and Peter Riddell, page 18
Letters, page 19



Coogan's Run. 9.30pm, this Friday, BBC2.

BBC2 is proud to announce the arrival of seven Steve Coogans. This Friday it's the turn of the salesman from hell: Gareth Cheeseman.



Labour officials are urged to intervene

Beleaguered councillors spend £7,000 on summit

BY ANDREW PIERCE

A LONDON Labour council which is the subject of serious allegations has spent thousands of pounds on a weekend summit to improve its image. More than 25 councillors from Tower Hamlets, east London, one of Britain's poorest boroughs, held a think-tank session at public expense at a hotel in Waltham Abbey, Essex.

The council is about to cut £2 million to balance its budget. It spent £7,000 on the weekend at the four-star Swallow Hotel, which has an indoor swimming pool and health club. Opposition Liberal Democrat councillors boycotted it.

A small group of the 43 Labour councillors is urging the regional Labour leadership to intervene in Tower Hamlets or risk a public relations disaster on the scale of Walsall, where the district Labour Party was suspended.

Allegations about the activities of the Tower Hamlets Labour group, which swept

back to power in May 1994 after eight years of Liberal Democrat control, have been passed to *The Times*.

They include Dennis Twomey, the council leader, faces legal action after writing a memorandum in which he accused a local businessman of being "one of the major players in heavy end crime (drugs, extortion, protection rackets, large VAT frauds)". Mr Twomey also named a Labour councillor as being a close associate of the businessman in the memo which he sent to Terry Ashton, the secretary of the London Labour Party. He has apologised to the councillor.

Sunahwar Ali, the Labour chairman of the development sub-committee, ran a restaurant for two years which he sold when he became a councillor in May 1994. The restaurant has never had planning permission. Mr Ali is still named on the lease of the property. He said: "I have sold it. My name should come off the lease. It's nothing to do

with me." The restaurant is run by nephew of Mr Ali's brother-in-law. Councillors are aware of the situation.

Ghulam Mortaza, the Labour mayor, was the subject of an internal investigation after seeking a local authority-funded extension, which would have cost up to £20,000, to his council house. The mayor claimed that he needed the extension because he performs civic duties at home. His term of office ends in May. The council rejected his application. New guidelines for councillors seeking local authority funds may now be issued. Mr Mortaza hopes to fight the safe Labour seat of Bethnal Green and Bow at the general election.

The council is paying its director of social services £60,000 to go to Birmingham University. When the two-year secondment is over she will have the option of early retirement on a £30,000 pension. Another senior officer was paid £90,000 to stay at home for 15 months after Labour

returned to power. In September he was given a £107,000 redundancy package.

Sylvie Pierce, the chief executive, in a confidential 52-page report which was discussed at the weekend summit, had a stark warning. She wrote: "Staff are often demotivated and frightened. The staff are not very brave, lack a sense of direction, are fearful of putting their heads over the parapet. There seems to be some confusion among staff about which services we are delivering from which office. We are seen as having a bunker mentality. Happy to sit inside our fortress and criticise the outside world, reluctant to get our hands dirty, and get involved in changing things."

Mr Twomey conceded that the Labour group was split. "It is no secret we have a variety of views. There are considerable problems about the way the council functions. We are not in decline. We are trying to deal with the aftermath of eight years of Liberal Democrat rule."



Fashion launch: models will demonstrate the idea

New-look Army parades kit for all occasions

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A NEW style of combat uniform that will give soldiers a battlefield wardrobe for every type of climate and terrain is to be launched tomorrow, for introduction throughout the Army over the next three years at a cost of £40 million.

The existing basic uniform of standard shirt, pullover and combat suit will be replaced with an array of lightweight "layered garments" which can be added or removed to suit particular weather conditions and types of military activity.

The first unit to receive the new combat uniform will be the 1st Battalion the Queen's Lancashire Regiment, based at Tidworth, Wiltshire. The new clothing programme, called Combat Soldier '95, will be launched at its barracks, with professional models demonstrating the layers in front of an invited audience including defence attaches from up to 80 countries and senior commanders from the three Armed Services.

The "designer" clothes, developed by the Army's direc-

torate of clothing and textiles, have been tested in the field over the past two years by The Royal Green Jackets. The Royal Marines and RAF Regiment have also tried them.

An Army spokesman described the new combat uniform as an "onion skin". Every item is lightweight, from the camouflaged shirt and trousers to the quick-dry cotton field jacket. The first layer is a T-shirt for the summer and a zippered roll-neck Norwegian shirt for the winter. Over this goes a combat suit which can include a fur-pile liner, or a Gore-Tex jacket and trousers.

The mid-thigh length wind-proof field jacket has a concealed hood and special pockets for maps.

Soldiers already have a new combat assault boot, among a range of footwear including jungle and desert boots. From next month, all three Armed Forces are to be issued with a new loose-fitting pullover made with improved fire-retardant material.

RAF satellite link open to jamming

THE RAF is developing an antenna to protect all its aircraft because the satellite-linked navigation system it uses can be jammed by enemy electronic warfare (Michael Evans writes).

The American global positioning system (GPS), linked to 24 satellites and available to every yachtsman, car driver and hill climber as well as the military, sends only a weak signal to earth, making it vulnerable to interference. The RAF is to test a new anti-jamming device on a Hercules transport aircraft over Cardigan Bay. The trial will affect all GPS-owners in the area.

The Ministry of Defence will notify the Civil Aviation Authority and other organisations to ensure that anyone

relying on GPS at the time will be warned to use a back-up system.

The pocket-sized device, which can be bought for £130, is so widely used in the civilian world that the ministry has been inundated with calls from the public since the anti-jamming trial was confirmed. GPS enables servicemen, whether in a warship, a tank in the desert or a fighter aircraft, to know where they are to within a few centimetres. It is owned and controlled by the United States.

When it went on the commercial market, the Pentagon made sure that the signal for use by civilians and non-Nato countries was degraded to be accurate to 100 metres.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

When the gentle touch can be fatal

A visit to London nearly ended in tragedy last week for Alan Sidney and his family from Sunderland. After feeding peanuts to the ducks in St James's Park he clasped the hand of his daughter Elizabeth, 5, and the traces of peanut oil set off a potentially fatal allergic reaction.

First Elizabeth's hand began to swell and the skin blistered, then the arm and the rest of her body were affected. Her face and mouth became so swollen that her breathing was restricted. Lorraine Sidney described her daughter as looking like the Elephant Man.

Fortunately the family knew that immediate action is essential when there are signs of anaphylactic reaction and Elizabeth was taken to the nearest chemist. The pharmacist called paramedics who gave first-aid treatment before taking the girl to hospital. Even the time taken for that journey could have proved fatal: a subcutaneous injection of adrenalin at the standard dilution of 1-in-1,000 is needed immediately.

A dose of 0.33 to 0.5ml of 1-in-1,000 adrenalin, given under the skin, a very simple procedure which can be done by anyone, is usually enough to save a patient if the attack has not progressed beyond the stage of itching, nettle-rash, blistering skin, swollen face and mouth, wheezing and vomiting.

These signs usually occur within 15 minutes of contact with peanuts. Sometimes the dose needs repeating and if the collapse is more advanced — complete shock can follow two or three minutes after the face has begun to swell — intravenous therapy may be needed with intubation to maintain an airway. Subcutaneous adrenalin can be repeated and when the attack has subsided antihistamines by mouth may be useful. They have no role in treating the initial attack.

Accounts of patients of all ages who have collapsed after unwittingly eating peanuts added to confectionery, ice-cream and other foods are all

too frequent. Some, such as Elizabeth Sidney, suffer because of second-hand contact. Recently a Canadian girl suffered severe "blistering" of the arms and a dangerously swollen mouth after being touched by her father, who had wiped his dirty hands with a peanut packet. The reaction occurs only in someone who has already been sensitised, but the initial episode may have been so mild as to have escaped attention.

Eggs can cause a similar reaction. The Mannering family of Faversham, Kent, will never forget their Boxing Day lunch of 1986. Edward, their six-month-old son, ate some lemon mousse and within 15 minutes his face was swollen and his body covered in watery blisters. He wheezed and was sick.

Fortunately they were lunching near the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, where his life was saved by immediate treatment. Thereafter even touching an egg in its shell caused his skin to redden and his face to swell. He can now occasionally eat a cooked egg.

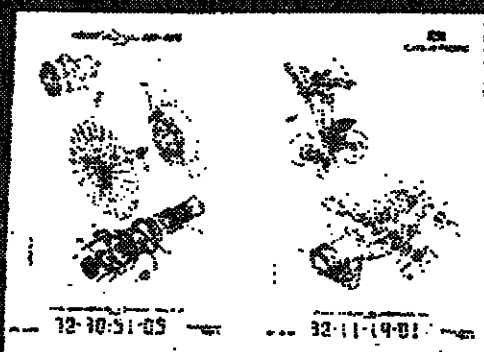
As well as carrying adrenalin in prepared syringes, patients should consider a course of desensitisation. It should, however, be carried out only by highly skilled physicians working in departments equipped to deal with any emergency. In less favourable surroundings patients have collapsed and even died from the very treatment meant to make their life safer.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

Working animals in developing countries depend on SPANA

Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad
15 Buckingham Gate
London SW1 6LB
Reg Charity 205015
SPANA
PROTECTS ANIMALS ABROAD

Enough room to store a 747.



Panasonic

CF-41 NOTEBOOK
WITH INTERNAL CD-ROM

Use the keyboard and touch pad the

Secret to the CF-41's legendary storage

capable for its size about 100 MB

an internal CD-ROM drive, allowing

almost hands-free use of space, too

more than 100 MB of CD-ROM doesn't just

store loads of information, it also does

away with those slide-rule calculations

and word processing. This is a big tip

off your shoulder when you need

information and then on to the next

including the screen, the station video

The CF-41 is not just a notebook

like a standard PC, it's a

information and then on to the next

information and then on to the next

information and then on to the next

information and then on to the next

Our job is to
make yours easier.

هكذا من الاصل

Crime compensation

Families ask Howard to show mercy on payments

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

DOZENS of families of murder victims have lost the chance to receive government cash for the loss of loved ones after the legal dispute over a new compensation scheme. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is urged today to intervene and consider the plight of the families, who were unwittingly caught up in a battle between the Government and courts about the legality of the scheme.

Helen Reeves, of the charity Victim Support, blamed the Government for the plight of the families. "They have become the victims of the Government's mismanagement of the criminal injuries compensation scheme. I believe that they have been cruelly treated and that the Home Secretary should step in and show them some mercy," she said.

The families applied to receive new bereavement awards of £10,000 available to relatives of murder victims under a scheme introduced in April 1994 by Mr Howard. It allowed the parents of murdered adults, adult children of murdered people and unmarried partners of murder victims to claim compensation.

But the new tariff-based scheme was withdrawn in April this year after the Law Lords ruled that it was unlawful. Although the families had applied for the award before the scheme was withdrawn, they were not allowed to have the money, even though people who had received cash have not had to repay it.

Since being told they will not get a bereavement award, the relatives have been informed that, because they made an application under the original tariff scheme, they cannot make another to the revised scheme that starts in April.

Diane Shiels, 52, whose son

Perrie, 22, a sailor on the Royal Yacht Britannia, died after being attacked while on shore leave, said: "I am very bitter towards the Government over this. It spends millions on improvement in prisons to keep the swine who commit these crimes, but does very little for those left behind."

"I don't think the Government should put families through this. My son was not the only one who lost his life, it finished my life too. We will never be a family again."

John Davis, a chief inspector with Norfolk police whose son Jason, 23, was killed in January, had not wanted to apply for an award initially. Then he decided that he and his wife Bernie would use part of the money to make a donation to a hospital in Africa. She said: "It is not the money part of it, it is the way we have been treated that is so distressing."

Others include Norman Burton whose son Malcolm was stabbed in Southend in March 1994 by his girlfriend's estranged husband, and Pat Finlay, whose daughter was found naked and strangled in August 1994. She wanted to use the money to pay for a headstone for her daughter's grave.

Victim Support, the charity to help victims of crime, estimates that up to 250 families might be affected by the decision.

David Maclean, a junior Home Office Minister, said he did not believe it would be right to make exceptions. He wrote to Victim Support: "There are always people who are affected in one way or another by rule changes, and we cannot move to a situation where people's claims can be settled under whichever arrangement may be more advantageous to them."



Perrie Shiels, 22, was killed in the street while on shore leave from the Royal Yacht Britannia

Anglers split by alliance with pro-hunt group

By MICHAEL HORNSEY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

ANGLERS are divided over links with a new countryside pressure group that many fear will make them a target for animal rights protesters.

Coarse fishermen are furious that Ken Ball, president of the National Federation of Anglers, their representative body, has accepted a position on the board of directors of the Countryside Movement. The movement, headed by Sir David Steel, the former Liberal leader, is widely seen as a front for hunting, shooting and landowning interests, though it professes broader social and educational aims.

Mr Ball was already under fire for taking his organisation, with the Salmon and Trout Association and the National Federation of Sea Anglers, into an alliance with the British Field Sports Society, a passionate defender of hunting. More than 50 angling clubs affiliated to the northwest regional branch of the National Federation of Anglers have called on Mr Ball to resign. The northeast region is urging him to withdraw from the Countryside Movement. A recent poll conducted by the *Angling Times* ducted by the *Angling Times* found that among its readers found that more than 90 per cent who

responded were opposed to closer links between angling organisations and supporters of hunting.

Mr Ball said: "We have to recognise that we all need to stand together to defend country sports against the growing hostility of the animal rights extremists." He has the backing of his national executive but is expected to face a serious challenge when he comes up for re-election as president at the federation's next annual general meeting in April.

Alex Woods, chairman of the Chester Association of Anglers, which seconded the call for Mr Ball's resignation, said: "It is extremely foolish to ally ourselves with a group which will draw fire on us from bodies like the League Against Cruel Sports, which have given us no trouble up to now."

But John Bryant, the league's chief press spokesman, said: "The idea that there is a threat to angling is a myth invented by the hunting lobby to get fishermen on its side."

Some game anglers are also uneasy about being aligned too closely to the hunting lobby, but most support the Countryside Movement.



£60m home joins elite property club

BRITAIN'S most expensive private home, a former Tory club, is about to be bought by a relative of the Sultan of Brunei. The £60 million property at 74 St James's Street, London, has two atriums with waterfalls, a ballroom, 24 bedrooms and bathrooms and a £1 million security system (Rachel Kelly writes).

The sultan's family, believed to be the richest in the world with a

£22 billion fortune based on oil revenue, already owns 40 London properties. It is understood to want the St James's Street house as a business base as well as a home.

Richard Crosshwaite, of the property agents Knight Frank & Rutley, said: "The family have always

bought with great discretion some of London's most important residential properties."

From the outside 74 St James's Street appears grand but anonymous. It was built in 1845 to house the Conservative Club, formed by dissident Tories who did not deign

to join its chief rival, the Carlton Club. In 1941, the Bath Club moved in after its Dover Street home had been burnt down, and the merged club earned the nickname the "Lava-Tory". The club moved out in 1959 and the building stood empty until the management consultant

McKinsey took it over in 1971. It was vacated in 1993, and is being sold by the developer Wiggins Group.

The sultan's main London residence is at 20 Kensington Palace Gardens. He also owns The Aviary, an estate at Osterley, set in 30 acres. The sultan's brother, Prince Jefri Bolkiah, owns the 40-room St John's Lodge in Regent's Park and the former Playboy club on Park Lane, which cost £55 million.

AMERICANS ALWAYS WANT THE BEST, SO NATURALLY THEY CHOOSE TO WORK WITH US.



The United States has the largest nuclear industry in the world, but even the Americans sometimes need help.

Oak Ridge, Savannah River and Rocky Flats may sound like sites from the old Wild West, but they're actually nuclear sites that need cleaning up. In these places and at the US Department of Energy's site at Hanford, Washington, a BNFL subsidiary company is engaged in a major waste management and restoration programme.

We are building the world's most advanced facility to recover and re-use metal contaminated with radioactivity, setting new standards within the United States nuclear industry.

Our biggest contract to date came when the team, of which we are a member, was named

the managing operator of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology site near Denver, Colorado. In Russia and other nations of the old Soviet Union, BNFL experts have provided training courses in nuclear safety.

We also have technology which could help Russia dismantle her nuclear warheads and recycle the uranium and plutonium for peaceful use in nuclear power plants.

Recycling is yet another area of expertise where BNFL leads the world. When a reactor load of fuel has come to the end of its useful life, it shouldn't simply be disposed of as waste when 97% of the fuel can be turned back into clean uranium and plutonium for re-use.

This process has proven of particular interest

in Japan, where people see the value of a fuel that can be used over and over again.

In fact, as well as being one of the many countries using our Thorp reprocessing facility at Sellafield, the Japanese have also asked BNFL to help design a reprocessing plant of their own.

All over the world, our experts apply experience gained in the course of their everyday work at BNFL, to a staggering variety of projects.

We are experts in (among other things and in no particular order), advanced robotics, corrosion detection and proofing, virtual reality, lasers, chemical engineering, vitrification, nuclear fuel reprocessing, distributed data processing, high level programming, heavy engineering, safety systems, transportation of nuclear materials, transport

flask design and shipping, nuclear fuel design, uranium enrichment and precision engineering.

With scientists from all over the world constantly coming to us for advice, we've even been referred to as 'BNFL University'.

To find out more about what we do and how we do it, come and see us at the Sellafield Visitors Centre in Cumbria.

Or for further information, please write to: Corporate Communications, BNFL, Risley, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6AS.



Where science never sleeps

Managers search in vain for feel-good factor

By TONY DAW

MANAGERS are suffering from stress, working harder and longer with little job security and few expectations, a survey by the Institute of Management says today.

The report, based on interviews with 1,300 managers in private and public firms, says that anxiety has reached a peak as companies struggle to emerge from the recession.

Stress results in the breakdown of marriages, especially of managers with young children, increased depression and a firm belief among two-thirds of managers that the recession is continuing and there is no such thing as a "feel-good" factor.

"Despite successfully navigating their organisations towards recovery, managers now face a double whammy: greater job insecurity and longer working hours," Roger Young, the institute's director, said. More than half the

managers in the survey said that they always worked longer than their official hours, often into the evenings, and took work home at weekends, damaging relationships with family and friends. "I am overworked and find insufficient time to plan or to have an outside life," one manager said.

Those aged between 35 and 44 expressed the greatest diffi-

culties in achieving a balance between work and home life. Managers with small children are under the most severe pressure, which can lead to divorce and further depression. The least stressed group are those without children and with no elderly relatives dependent on them.

The lack of job security is reflected by the finding that in three managers has

been in the same job for no more than two years and that many find changes difficult to make. Four out of ten do not feel in control of their career development and far fewer (15 per cent) expect their next move to be a promotion within their existing organisations. "I feel no financial or emotional security from one week to the next," one said.

The survey's results are

typified by the experiences of managers such as Ian Brown, of Clapham, south London, who works for an international bank. "One of many restructurings saw my boss disappear and left me with his work as well as my own without any promotion for me," he said.

"I had to work longer and longer hours with little satisfaction but I dared not com-

plain for fear of going the same way as many colleagues. The only answer is to find another job, even if it is less well paid."

Chris Roebuck, consultant to the City University Business School, said: "I personally know of people whose working hours are logged by computer because they use a swipe card to go in and out of their offices and who feel that

they must stay late because some of their colleagues do. That is inefficient because the practical implications of working people too hard are that their performance goes down rapidly and they become less capable of making rational decisions."

"The managers themselves know this is inefficient but because of the culture of their company they dare not say anything for fear of being fired."

The survey calls on organisations to remove stress at work and says they must improve the training and motivation of staff and communication with them. It adds that managers themselves must be flexible enough to embrace change.

Despite its overall gloom, the survey does report that seven out of ten managers find work satisfying, with older and more senior managers the most enthusiastic about their jobs.



Sugden: had to cut back businesses

Never-ending struggle to succeed

ANNE SUGDEN works seven days a week to keep her small businesses afloat (Tony Dawe writes). "I know it sounds a cliché and people say you can't possibly do that, but in order to progress I have to keep on the move," she said. "I have turned the ground floor of my house into offices so that makes it easier to continue working."

Ms Sugden's story reflects the finding of today's Institute of Management survey that managers are having to work harder with less security. She used to

employ 40 people in three businesses, including a marketing and training consultancy and a firm providing catering at garden centres, but has had to sell part of the business and reduce her staff to 25.

She would like to expand her offices at home in Rossendale, Lancashire, but cannot afford more equipment. "I have four desks and four computers and that's it," she said.

"To get the accounting and administrative work completed, I have to find

flexible staff who are prepared to work in the evenings or at weekends when the full-time staff have left.

"There are a lot of managers who don't dare take all their holidays or be off sick because they are terrified of losing their jobs. Those responsible for finance are always being pressured by their bosses to keep the cash flowing in. Companies that used to be relaxed about when you paid bills are always saying it is the end of their accounting period and asking you to settle up."

Casualties of church healing offered sanctuary

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A GROUP to help the casualties of charismatic healing sessions in churches has been set up by the wives of two Conservative MPs.

The launch of the Susannah Trust comes shortly after the collapse of the Nine O'Clock Service in Sheffield amid allegations that he manipulated followers. The Rev Chris Brain, leader of the cult-style church, may face church disciplinary proceedings.

The psychiatric trust is headed by Susan Stanley, wife of the former minister Sir John Stanley, Lady Stanley, a medical social worker, said: "I have seen people wonderfully helped as well as hurt and bewildered, and we are simply issuing a plea for discernment. There needs to be a broad and more informed approach to the question of healing. Prayer is vital, but it is often just the first step."

Trustees include Sylvia Alison, wife of the MP Michael Alison, who is Second Church Estates Commissioner and the Church of England's spokesman in Parliament. Dr Jack Dominian, the eminent Roman Catholic psychiatrist, is an adviser.

The trust's work may include dealing with after-effects of the so-called Toronto blessing, the phenomenon experienced in some evangelical churches where members are "slain by the spirit" and collapse in hysterical laughter or tears. They sometimes remain comatose on the floor for more than an hour.

There has been growing concern about extremism and fundamentalism in churches. A conference at King's College London this weekend heard examples of the misapplication of Christian theology, resulting in damage to the lives of believers.

Steve Hunt, sociology lecturer at Reading University, described damage caused by exorcism, a common method of "healing". He referred to a woman who joined a charismatic church and was visited by a team of six people who had come to "cleanse" her home of demonic forces. "They proceeded to cast demons out of her fridge and demanded that she disposed of her toilet-brush holder, which was in the shape of a green frog and apparently attracted evil spirits," he said.

Mr Hunt said exorcisms, known as deliverance, had caused "unintended harm" in charismatic churches. Sexual habits, in particular, are thought to need "heavy deliverance", which can include pouring consecrated wine over the parts of the body associated with the habit.

Mr Hunt said deliverance could not be dismissed as a throwback to rampant superstition of the medieval age. "Paradoxically, there is something very modern about it and, even more so, something desperately middle class."

Police inquiries and inquest compound destructive feeling of guilt among bereaved

Suicide in the family leaves victims behind

By CATHERINE MILTON, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE who commit suicide damage and often destroy the friends and family they leave behind. Sorrow and self-doubt are compounded by the stress of police inquiries and the inquest, according to the journal of the British Association of Counselling.

"Suicide involves much more than the destruction of the person. Very often it destroys others in the family. The real victim, time after time, is not the body in the coffin, but the family," a report in the November issue of *Counselling* says.

Public concern about suicide generally focuses on the dead, and recently alarm has centred on the growing numbers of young men who kill themselves. In the ten years to 1992, the number of men aged 15 to 24 who took their own lives increased almost 60 per cent, while the rate for the population as a whole was broadly stable. Poisoning with car exhaust fumes accounted for 30 per cent of all suicides in 1992, hanging for 25 per cent and drug poisoning for 23 per cent.

The shock and disbelief of all bereaved people lasts longer in cases of suicide. Grievers want to know "why" feel guilty, suffer depression and may face hostility when they try to discuss their grief, the journal says. The search for the reason for the suicide may never end, says the report by Alice Middleton, of Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide, and David Williams, senior lecturer in psychology and director of counselling studies at Hull University.

In a 1985 study, almost 90 per cent of those bereaved by suicide said they felt guilt. The report explains: "The guilt one feels for missing clues that were probably given: guilt that one is not good enough to share the feelings of the deceased; guilt that one may have contributed towards the suicide." Depression is often exacerbated by sleeplessness, lack of nourishment, sadness and a preoccupation with the scene of the death.

There is still a social stigma

attached to suicide. Funerals are often hushed up and those "found out" by neighbours may move away. Where relatives are open about the cause of death, many are avoided, even by close friends.

The authors are critical of the inquest system, which, they argue, can impede the grieving process. "Suicide is no longer a crime but police inquiries begin immediately. Personal loss becomes a matter for public scrutiny."

However, they say that in some cases the inquest can be positive, presenting an opportunity for relatives to put forward their own version of events and to find out more about what happened.

The study says there is little help for those bereaved by suicide, given their intense and particular suffering. Specialist counselling within the first 24 hours of a suicide can be effective, as can keeping a diary, writing a letter to the dead person, the authors say.

Some survivors reported that group counselling with those whose loved ones did not die through suicide made them feel self-conscious and shameful. The report concludes: "Those bereaved by suicide share common tasks with all those who are bereaved: they must accept the loss as final, give up the attachment, and learn to live without the deceased."



Alice Middleton founded a bereavement advice group after her brother's death

Mother who tries to blame herself



Sue Roff: knew what her son might do

NINETEEN months before he took his life at the age of 24, Andrew Roff warned his parents that he was planning to die. Four years on, his mother cannot subdue the tremendous grief in her voice. "He wanted to tell us so that his death would not be a shock to us," Sue Roff said.

Andrew, who worked at a metalworks company, was an outgoing, happy person with lots of friends until his early 20s when a mysterious depression settled on him. Mrs Roff, a 53-year-old nurse, said: "We still don't know

why but life began to seem meaningless for him."

She and her husband John, a 55-year-old cook, persuaded him to see doctors. Nothing helped. Andrew made his first, almost fatal attempt, soon after his warning. Mrs Roff, who lives near Arundel in West Sussex, said: "From then on life was a nightmare for him, and for us."

Andrew became anorexic, his personality changing beyond recognition. He was admitted to hospital twice. "Andrew tried very hard not to die," Mrs Roff said. But

one day he climbed into a car and poisoned himself with carbon monoxide.

Mrs Roff said: "When a 24-year-old child dies, it is absolutely devastating. But when at 24 they take their own life, there are so many feelings of guilt. For us, it was where we failed him as parents."

The Roffs contacted another couple whose son died two months after Andrew and the families started a support group. Mrs Roff said: "It is a long and painful journey but eventually the good days do start creeping in again."

Relatives 'must learn how to heal themselves'

ALICE MIDDLETON'S brother lay in a coma for about two weeks before he died from the injuries he received when he crashed his motorcycle outside his girlfriend's house (Catherine Milton writes). The pain of her grief was sharpened because in what turned out to be their last conversation, they had quarrelled. "I felt terribly guilty when I reflected on our last conversation."

Miss Middleton, who has since qualified as a counsellor, said: "The first thing I wanted to do was blame someone. Because it concerned relationship issues, I had an obvious target. But his lady friend couldn't live without John. She took her life six months later."

Her brother was "a lovely fellow", a bus driver whose concern for his passengers led him into conflict with his bosses who sometimes pressured him to take out buses he felt were defective.

He was intelligent, she says, and, as is often the case with those who take their lives, a bit of a perfectionist. She added: "I think for some people the world is too painful a place for them to exist in."

At the time when her brother died Miss Middleton was recovering from a serious car accident which ended her career as a Salvation Army officer.

She was undergoing counselling to help her adjust to a new, less active life, but she felt there was a need for a specialist service for those bereaved by suicide.

She returned to Hull, her home town, where she trained for five years in counselling. In 1991 she founded Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide. There are now three such groups in Britain.

Miss Middleton believes it is possible, though difficult, to recover from the suicide of a loved one. She said: "If you cut yourself, you are left with a scar. It is the same with suicide."

"You are left with a wound and it is your choice whether or not that heals... Time itself does not heal, it is how you work towards your own healing during that time."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Couple charged over attacks

Police have charged a couple with a series of brutal attacks on elderly residents in an area of Birmingham. The 26-year-old man, of no fixed address, and the 35-year-old woman, from Birmingham, were arrested on Friday night in a pub in Small Heath. Detectives charged them with robbery, assault and false imprisonment in connection with three attacks on elderly people in the city this week.

Margaret Green, 79, the latest victim, is still recovering in hospital after she was attacked in her home in Small Heath on Wednesday night.

Daisy Drew, 82, was also attacked on Wednesday by a couple claiming to be police officers and Stanley Clarke, 84, was attacked on Monday evening by a couple claiming to be social services officers.

Lindisfarne founder dies

Alan Hull, a founder of the folk-rock band Lindisfarne, has died in hospital after a suspected heart attack, it was announced yesterday. Hull, 50, collapsed at his home on Friday night and died later in North Tyneside General Hospital. His wife and three daughters were at his side. Mr Hull wrote the band's hit songs including *Fog on the Tyne* and *Meet Me on the Corner*. *Obituary*, page 21

Thousands seek Christmas sun

About 500,000 Britons will leave the country this Christmas, according to the Association of British Travel Agents. The Canary Islands, Spain and Cyprus are the top destinations, but South Africa may challenge traditional resorts when a charter service begins next month. Keith Bretton, of Abta, said the Bluebird Express service would swell the growing numbers already visiting the country.

Saved by whisker

A cat saved a newborn kitten when its owner gave it the kiss of life won the supreme champion prize from the governing council of the Cat Fancy at Birmingham. Akdamar Bazisey Mahsus, a Turkish Van, is owned by Joyce Johnson, 56, of Bradford.

Water powered

Tankers are due to begin carrying up to six million gallons of water a day to drought-stricken West Yorkshire today. The tankers will make 1,000 daily trips between Long Newton reservoir, Cleveland, and Ecuap reservoir, near Leeds, at a cost of more than £1 million a week.

MoD under fire

Jack Conn, 77, a wartime corporal in the Royal Army Medical Corps who saw service in the Middle East, has dubbed the Ministry of Defence "skinflints" for refusing to replace his stolen medals free of charge because, at £50, it would be "an unfair burden on official finances".

Theft victim dies

Police have arrested two men and a girl aged 15 after Nita White, 65, of Rothwell, Northamptonshire, died in hospital of a heart attack on Saturday, a day after a gang robbed her of her handbag in the street. Tests are being carried out to determine if her death is connected to the robbery.

Veteran flyer

Reginald Turnill, 80, who as BBC aerospace correspondent reported on all the Apollo space missions, will become the oldest man to experience the weightlessness of space. He will join more than 40 students tomorrow in a European Space Agency astronaut training flight.

Big switch-off

Electricity was cut to 30,000 homes around Hexham and Corbridge, Northumberland, for repairs after a tow rope from a glider came loose and landed on power lines, earthing the cables. Thousands more homes lost power at Tynemouth after a separate fault at a sub-station.

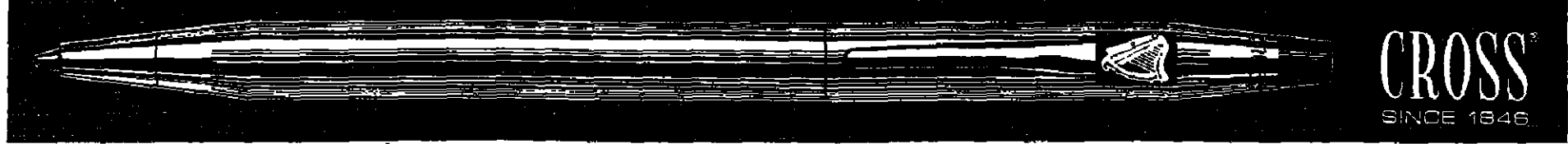
Home at last

A racing pigeon has flown back to its owner's loft two years after setting off on a race. Paul Denholm, 37, of Woodhouse, Leeds, entered four birds in the race from Fareham, Hampshire, and three returned in good time. Mr Denholm said: "Somebody must have taken it in."

GUARANTEED FOR LIFE.

How else will your business gifts create a lasting impression?

Phone 01582 422793 or Fax 01582 456097/22941



CROSS
SINCE 1846

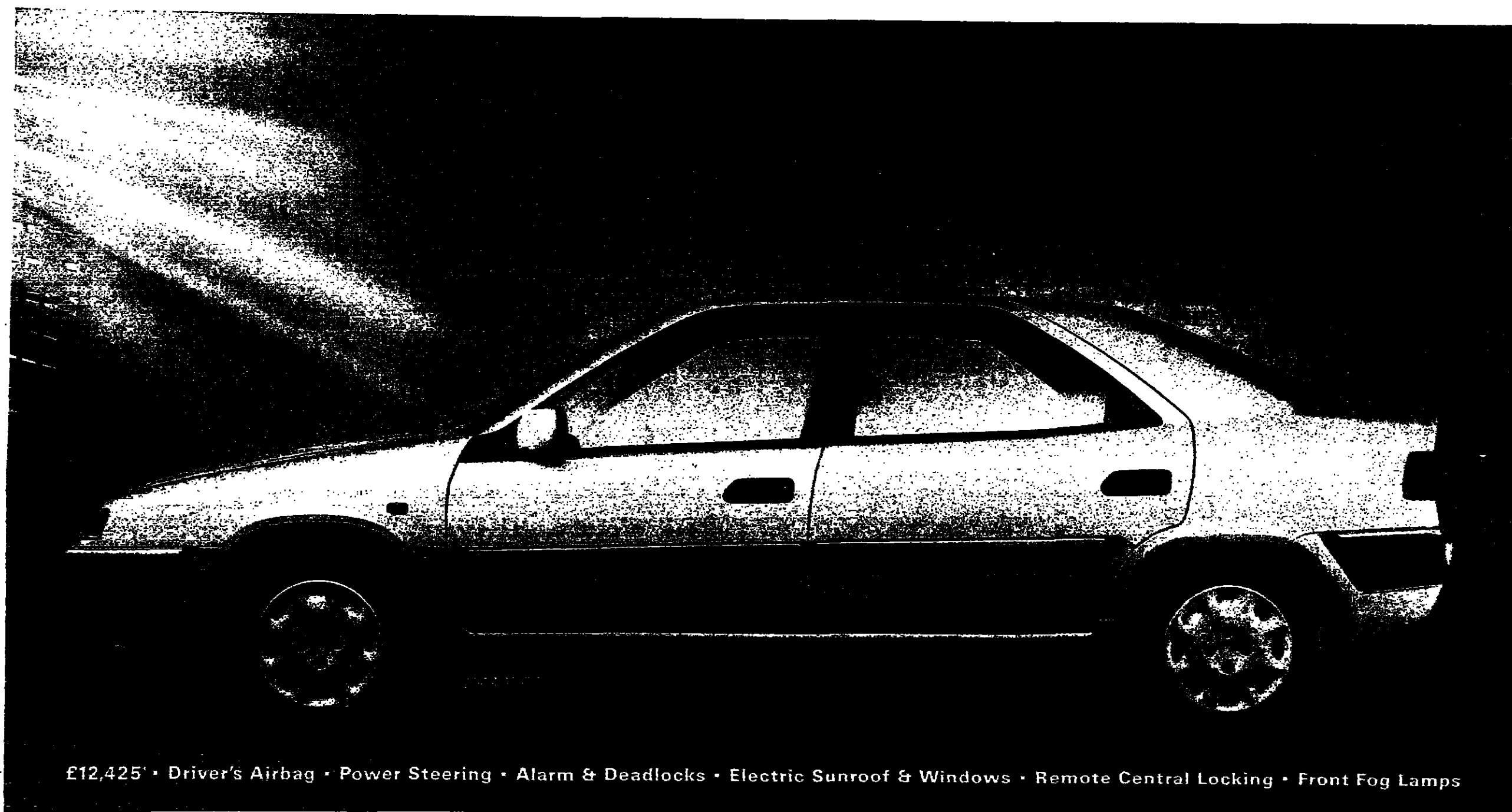


You'll be captivated but not held to ransom.

You stroll into the showroom, little knowing what fate has in store.

Suddenly, you're confronted by the striking profile of the Xantia Dimension.

You're stunned. You're ushered inside and the door is closed firmly behind you. Silence. You are alone with your thoughts. You cast an eye over your new surroundings.



£12,425* • Driver's Airbag • Power Steering • Alarm & Deadlocks • Electric Sunroof & Windows • Remote Central Locking • Front Fog Lamps

Velour upholstery, remote control RDS stereo, electric sunroof and metallic or pearlescent colours.

You anticipate unreasonable demands.

But no. £12,425* for a Xantia Dimension with the new 1.8i multivalve engine. Or £13,410* for the 1.9 Turbo Diesel.

You're free at last to savour anew the open road, with the Xantia's acclaimed performance and roadholding to help you on your way.

To effect your release at the earliest opportunity, call 0800 262 262 now for details of your nearest Citroën dealer.

The sooner you open negotiations the better.

CITROËN XANTIA DIMENSION
NOTHING MOVES YOU LIKE A CITROËN

China bows to US and cuts import tariffs by a third

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG AND PEREGRINE HODSON IN OSAKA

PEKING, bowing to American pressure, agreed yesterday to cut import tariffs, paving the way for its accession to the World Trade Organisation. The issue had dominated the 18-nation Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (Apec) meeting in Osaka, which ended last night.

President Jiang Zemin told delegates that "from 1996, China will drastically reduce its overall tariff level by a margin of no less than 30 per cent". The meeting ended with a promise that the markets of the region's industrialised nations would be opened up by 2010 and the rest by 2020.

Chinese officials at Osaka said that the cuts would affect more than 4,000 items and reduce average tariffs to between 24 and 25 per cent, from the present 35 per cent. The Chinese also promised to eliminate quota and licensing controls on 170 tariff lines, about 30 per cent of the commodities now regulated.

The statement demonstrated that Peking had accepted in principle what the Americans call the "road map" which was supplied to the Chinese, indicating the path they needed to follow to membership of the World Trade Organisation.

"China took the road map very seriously," said Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, after a meeting in

Osaka over the weekend with Wu Yi, Peking's Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation Minister. "They have accepted it as the basis for accession to the organisation."

The plan is for China to adhere to what are called "international norms" in trade. It is regarded in Washington as a slow process which, in the words of one American official, "will take as little or as long as it takes".

Until recently Peking insisted that it should be allowed to enter the organisation as a developing country and accused Washington of blocking its entry for anti-communist reasons.

This view has been rejected by the Americans. After negotiations in Peking, Charlene Barshefsky, Mr Kantor's deputy, described the organisation as "a rules-based system of rights and obligations... that all of its members must accept. The organisation is not a menu from which one can simply pick and choose".

In her hard-hitting remarks in Hong Kong last week, which may have shown their effect in the Chinese declaration in Osaka, Ms Barshefsky gave a warning that "China must stop erecting new barriers that replace those previously removed."

Mrs Barshefsky gave as examples the acceptance by

the Americans of 40 per cent of China's exports, while China accepted only 2 per cent of American exports, leading to a \$38 billion (£24 billion) deficit in Peking's favour.

As the Osaka summit dispersed, Tomiichi Murayama, the Japanese Prime Minister, said he believed the meeting as having been of "historic significance" in that it moved the body from "vision" to "action".

Al Gore, the American Vice-President, described the action agenda as dramatic.

Fred Bergsten, director of the US Institute for International Economics, summed up the conference as "a mixed bag" but said the rapid programme for implementation of the conference declaration was "impressive".

The summit had been characterised by realism. During the past year, the host country, Japan, prepared the ground thoroughly, thereby ensuring that there were no unpleasant surprises. Participants recognise their mutual interest in making Apec a credible forum for economic co-operation — not a bargaining shop for bitter trade disputes.

The Western members, notably America and Australia, tried to introduce a legalistic character to proceedings but this was resisted by most of



Jean Chrétien and Tomiichi Murayama, the Prime Ministers of Canada and Japan, enjoy an Osaka tea ceremony

the Asian countries. Australia, in particular, the prime mover of Apec in Canberra in 1989, hoped for a more rigorous commitment to liberalisation than the summit declaration. America also would have preferred more liberalisation for

its agricultural produce. Certainly there were missed opportunities, particularly the summit's failure to address human rights and environmental issues in any significant way. Nor was there much progress, as America had

hoped, towards making Apec a post-Cold War forum for security issues in the region.

While China was exhibiting its economic co-operation in Osaka it also flexed its political and regional muscle. President Jiang told President

Ramos of the Philippines, next year's Apec host, that President Lee of Taiwan should be barred from participating. Taiwan was represented in Osaka by lower-level officials, under the name "Chinese-Taipei".

NEWS IN BRIEF

Peking sets sights on colony law

Hong Kong: Tsang Yok Sing, on the colony's Preliminary Working Committee which is handpicked by Peking, said yesterday that a preparatory group, consisting mostly of committee members, would reshape the political structure to China's satisfaction (Jonathan Mirsky writes).

It will abolish the democratic Legislative Council, and list laws China should repeal, such as the Bill of Rights.

Skiers die

Albertville: Two American skiers froze to death and three others were suffering from severe hypothermia after their party became stranded in a blizzard in the Alps in eastern France. (AP)

Catalonian poll

Barcelona: Five million voters yesterday began voting to return 135 deputies to the Catalonian parliament. The poll could reveal trends for the early Spanish general election expected in March. (Reuters)

School deaths

Peking: Seven children were killed and 18 hurt in a stampede at a school in Inner Mongolia after a sudden fall in temperature sent pupils running to their dormitories, a newspaper reported. (Reuters)

Prince charged

Phnom Penh: Prince Norodom Sirivudh, a half-brother of King Norodom Sihanouk and former Foreign Minister, is being charged with trying to kill Hun Sen, Cambodia's Co-Prime Minister. (AP)

Jail protest ends

Athens: Guards regained control of the nation's largest prison after inmates returned to their cells, ending a five-day revolt over living conditions in which four people died and 50 were taken to hospital. (AP)

Head cases

New York: A plastic surgeon here has found a solution to loose toupees — he inserts metal pegs into patients' skulls to anchor hairpieces, so preventing them being blown off in high winds.

'Houdini Hawke' returns as peacemaker



Hawke: strong record as labour negotiator

LIKE an old warhorse, Bob Hawke, the former Australian Prime Minister and trade union leader, has been harnessed to pull his nation back from the brink of industrial disaster.

The former Labor Party leader, once known as "Houdini Hawke" because of his prowess as an industrial peacemaker, will attempt today to broker a settlement in a row over the introduction of individual contracts by the mining giant CRA. Seventy-six employees at the CRA's Weipa operation in north Queensland went on strike last month after refusing to sign the contracts. They demanded equal pay with 635 workers who had signed individual contracts and who

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

receive as much as £10,000 a year more. Conscious that its power was being eroded, the Australian Council of Trades Unions threatened to call a general strike in support of its Weipa members. The Maritime Workers' Union was the first to come out, forcing the closure of all Australian ports last week. The United Mineworkers' Union was due to begin a national seven-day strike involving 20,000 coal workers last night.

But no sooner had Mr Hawke's name been mentioned as a mediator in the dispute than reason appeared to return to the negotiating table. Even the militant waterfront unions called off their strike. Mr Hawke, toppled by Paul Keating in

a Labor Party coup in 1992, has agreed to hold a meeting with both sides today. Accused by critics of making a quick buck from business interests after retiring from politics and of betraying his wife of 38 years by running off with his biographer, Mr Hawke was positively beaming at the prospect of being of use to his country when he was photographed yesterday.

However, some see his involvement as a slap in the face for Mr Keating. Peter Costello, the opposition's Treasury spokesman, said: "It's indicative of the failure of Paul Keating really that they have to call for the man he personally knifed as Prime Minister."

Shell denies offer on Ogoni activists

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

SHELL last night denied that it had offered to intervene with Nigeria to win the release of Ken Saro-Wiwa, the writer and human rights activist who was hanged by the military regime.

The allegation of such an offer was "false" and "grotesque", a spokesman for Shell said. He confirmed, however, that Brian Anderson, head of Shell Nigeria, held a series of meetings with Dr Owens Wiwa, the executed man's

brother, in Lagos between May and June last year. The oil company says that the meetings were intended to find a middle ground between Shell and the Ogoni people, who have been protesting against the environmental damage they accuse Shell of causing.

Dr Wiwa is reported to have claimed that Mr Anderson offered to intervene with the junta provided that the Ogoni people called off their protest.

HSBC Trade Services



Can you trust a bank to find you an overseas partner?

Perhaps. But it would need to understand your business. It would need an excellent grasp of overseas markets, and it would need a vast number of contacts. HSBC Trade Services, the trade and international banking arm of Midland Bank, is qualified on all three counts. Based at international branches throughout the UK, our trade specialists provide personal contact and in-depth operational support for your business, together

with a gateway to a global network. The HSBC Group has over 3,000 offices spread across 70 countries. Each offers valuable insights into its local markets and is able to introduce you to potential distributors or suppliers in the area. Putting you in touch with the right people is only part of our commitment to growing your international business. For more details, call 0345 180 180 or visit your nearest branch of Midland Bank.

The trade and international banking arm of
MIDLAND BANK
Member HSBC Group

Issued by Midland Bank plc

NEW IMPROVED SERVICE - SAME LOW PRICE

From just £29

the RAC covers you in any car.

Membership of the RAC still starts at just £29 — but now your basic cover offers even more benefits.

■ RAC Rescue covers you, not your car. So now you can call on us whenever you need fast roadside assistance, even when you're simply a passenger in someone else's car.

■ Roadside Rescue. In more than 8 out of 10 cases, our patrols can fix cars on the spot. Otherwise, they'll tow you to a nearby garage, free of charge.

■ Accident Service. A free courtesy car, free legal advice, plus we'll deal with your insurers.

■ Theft and Vandalism Cover. If your car's stolen or can't be driven because of vandalism, we'll get you home and recover your car, too.

■ Battery Assist. A new battery on the spot.

Whatever service you use, callouts and our labour are free — you only pay for parts.

You can also tailor your cover to meet your needs, with the option to take out Joint and Family Cover or add our 'At Home' service.

Don't wait until you break down. Find out how to join the RAC today.

PHONE FREE TODAY ON
0800 029 029
OR INTERNET
<http://www.rac.co.uk/>

AND QUOTE SS1558/3/XX

FREE
1995 RAC ROAD ATLAS
RRP £8.99



YES — I want to join the RAC.
Please tell me how I can join from just £29:

Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Send to: RAC Rescue, FREEPOST,
Bristol BS38 7AU. (No stamp needed.)

*Rescue costs £29 if you pay by Continuous Credit Card Authority or Direct Debit. All prices include an on-licence fee. Phone lines open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm. ST0004/SS1557/3/XX



IT SAYS
YOU'VE ARRIVED

سكزا من الاصل

Car bomb blast at Egypt's mission in Pakistan kills 17

By Christopher Thomas, South Asia Correspondent, and Zahid Hussain in Karachi

A CAR bomb wrecked the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, yesterday, killing 17 people, including two Egyptian diplomats. The device, the first in the city's diplomatic enclave, left a crater 60ft wide and demolished almost the entire wall of one side of the building.

Nasirullah Khan Babar, Egypt's Interior Minister, said that Gamaa al-Islamiya (the Islamic Group), an Egyptian organisation, had claimed responsibility in Cairo for the attack. However, rival claims were made by Jihad (holy war) and the International Justice Group.

The Government of Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, has been co-operating with Egypt by attempting to trace members of banned Islamic groups operating in the North-West Frontier Province or across the border in Afghanistan.

Gamaa, Egypt's largest militant organisation, told a news agency by telephone within two hours of the blast that it had blown up the embassy, but a man claiming to represent Jihad told a news organisation that his group was responsible and said: "It is not

The Islamabad attack is seen by security experts as signalling a new escalation in the campaign to overthrow President Mubarak and replace him with an Islamic republic (Christopher Walker writes). Gamaa al-Islamiya and Jihad have recruited Egyptian veterans of the Afghan war. The International Justice Group is less well known. The car bomb is also a new tactic, yet to be used in Egypt.

the Gamaa who did the attack. The Gamaa claim is a lie."

Later, a caller claiming to represent the International Justice Group said that it had carried out the attack. This previously unknown group claimed responsibility last week for the shooting of an Egyptian diplomat in Geneva.

Yesterday's bomb killed a counsellor, a deputy chief of the embassy, two Pakistani policemen, two security guards and some people who were at the embassy seeking visas. Sunday is a working day. The ambassador, who was shaken but unhurt, was taken from his office by a

rescue party. Buildings across the street were damaged and windows were smashed in nearby embassies.

The bomb blast was heard throughout the city and shook buildings two blocks away. Several Japanese, British and French citizens in other diplomatic missions nearby, mostly by flying glass. They included at least three Britons in the British compound next to the Egyptian Embassy, two diplomats and one attaché at the Japanese Embassy, the French wife of a Spanish diplomat, an employee at the French Embassy and a girl at the French school.

The nearby Foreign Ministry building, the Pakistani Radio building, Parliament House, a bank, and the mission of the United Nations Development Programme were damaged. Many cars were destroyed and witnesses said that huge chunks of concrete were thrown hundreds of yards. The moans and screams of the injured could be heard as rescue workers arrived.

In Cairo, President Mubarak condemned the bombing as an evil crime "in opposition to all spiritual and humanitarian values". The attack was



The Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad yesterday, where 17 people were killed by a bomb for which three Muslim groups have claimed responsibility

the worst on an Egyptian target abroad for years.

Pakistani officials said Egypt had provided a list of ten Islamic militants, most of them members of the Party of Islam, wanted for acts of terrorism. Cairo believes they may be hiding in Pakistan. The Bhutto Government re-

cently signed an extradition treaty with Egypt, bringing protests from Pakistani opposition Islamic parties. Gazi Hussain Ahmed, chief of Jamaat-Islami, accused the Government of working against Islam.

Pakistan, worried about becoming a centre for Islamic

extremists, has expelled more than 2,000 Arabs in the past two years, most of them Afghan war veterans from Egypt, Algeria, Sudan, Syria and Jordan. They arrived in Pakistan in the 1980s to fight against the forces of the former Soviet Union in Afghanistan. Many returned to their

own countries to work for Islamic revolution after the Soviet Union pulled out of Afghanistan, but others stayed on, making Pakistan an important centre for Islamic revolutionary groups. Miss Bhutto has co-operated with America in tracking down suspected terrorists, despite

objections by Islamic opposition parties. **Assist:** Suspected Egyptian Muslim militants opened fire on a tourist train heading from Aswan to Cairo, killing a railway worker and injuring several people. (Reuters)

Leading article, page 19

Hunt for rebel chief as Tamil bastion collapses

By Christopher Thomas

THE Sri Lankan Army claimed last night to be 800 yards from the centre of Jaffna, the collapsing headquarters of the Tamil Tigers, whose men and leaders have mostly scattered.

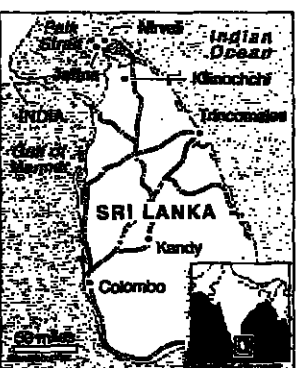
The Government offered millions of rupees for information about the whereabouts of Velupillai Prabhakaran, the Tigers' leader. He has abandoned his bunker on the city's northern outskirts.

The inevitable fall of Jaffna, traditional capital of Tamil history and culture, will not end the war but will radically change it. The Tigers, who evolved into a conventional army, will revert to what they do best: terrorism. Eastern Province, where there are many Tamils, will be especially vulnerable. This was demonstrated yesterday with the killing of 38 troops near Shanthei in eastern Batticaloa.

State radio said that advancing troops killed several rebels and captured the area around the Nallur Hindu temple, near

the heart of Jaffna, after resuming their forward push at dawn. Most troops have been withdrawn from the east to concentrate on the north, enabling the Tigers to roam freely and strike easily. The overstretched army is conducting a recruitment drive.

The army said the Tigers were "on the run" in Jaffna. Occupying the heart of the city, however, may prove costly and troops were last night ordered to halt their advance and reinforce the new front



line. Unknown numbers of Tigers are prepared for the last battle, with the possibility of hand-to-hand fighting. Members of the suicide squad, the Black Tigers, are doubtless among the rebel forces.

The shattered town, which once had a population of 200,000, has been littered with anti-personnel mines by the Tigers, slowing down the army's advance and exacting a heavy toll. There has been fierce resistance and both sides have suffered heavy casualties. All but a few civilians have fled, leaving it to the two armies. The offensive has shattered the myth that the rebels are invincible.

Many of the rebels have moved off the Jaffna peninsula to other northern areas, parts of which are under Tiger control. Mr Prabhakaran is unlikely ever to be taken alive; like all Tamil Tigers he carries a cyanide capsule on a cord around his neck and has taken a vow of suicide to avoid capture.

Rabin's killer 'was Israeli agent'

By Christopher Walker, in Jerusalem

THE state commission of inquiry into the series of security blunders that led to the November 4 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin began behind closed doors yesterday amid sensational claims of links between the right-wing assassin and Shin Bet, the Israeli equivalent of MI5. Such is the bewilderment about the case with which Yigal Amir was able to shoot the Prime Minister at close range that Moshe Shaleh, the Police Minister, was forced to dismiss "as without a shred of truth" allegations that Mr Amir was assisted by someone inside Rabin's inner circle of guards.

Suspicious that right-wing elements within Shin Bet connived in a conspiracy to murder Rabin were increased by reports that Mr Amir had worked as an Israeli agent while supposedly teaching Hebrew in Latvia for three months in 1992. Israel Radio said it was alleged that he had used an identity card provided to him by the security services to gain access to the "quarantine zone" behind the stage at the Tel Aviv rally where he shot Rabin.

The conspiracy theories have also been fuelled by allegations that Shin Bet was tipped off about the assassin in all but name months ago and that one of the eight militants so far detained (and the only one released) was a Shin Bet agent for two years. Reports that Avishai Raviv - head of the far-right organisation, Eyal, to which the plotters have been linked - was recruited by Shin Bet in order to flush out right-wing extremists, have further shocked the public. Yesterday rightwingers accused Mr Raviv, a friend of the assassin, of being an agent provocateur.

The Cabinet, in a sweeping crackdown, agreed yesterday to ban extreme right-wing Jewish groups, speed up the prosecution of members and bar supporters abroad from entering Israel, officials said.



Arafat: celebrating new milestone yesterday

Free Jenin welcomes Arafat

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JENIN, WEST BANK

MARKING another important milestone on the road to a Palestinian state, Yasser Arafat triumphantly returned to the West Bank town of Jenin yesterday and declared it free.

As an Egyptian helicopter carrying the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader appeared, about 10,000 excited Palestinians chanted, "With heart, with blood, we sacrifice ourselves for you." Within minutes of arriving, he appeared on a makeshift stage on the abandoned Israeli military headquarters' roof to emphasise Palestinians were at last liberating themselves from oppression. "Jenin is

free, free, free," he said, a week after Israeli troops had withdrawn after 28 years of military occupation.

He added that, with the "help of God", Palestinians would continue to take over other major towns and villages across the West Bank in the next two months, before the first self-rule elections on January 20. Finally, he said, Palestinians could look forward to the day when they would "all pray in Jerusalem".

Mr Arafat added that those who had attempted to sabotage the Israeli-PLO peace process had failed. "My brothers, this is the peace movement in the

land of prophecy and so we should put our hands together in order to build the Palestinian state.

The speech marked his first visit to Jenin since it fell into Israeli hands during the 1967 War with the seizure of the West Bank. He was there for the weekly meeting of the Palestinian Authority Cabinet, specially convened in Jenin.

There was not a single protest from Israeli rightwingers, in contrast to little more than a year ago when Mr Arafat returned to the West Bank enclave of Jericho. Then Jewish settlers blocked roads.

Should you sell your jewellery now?

When was the last time your finest jewellery was seen? If it's merely becoming an increasingly expensive insurance item, now could be the ideal time to realise its value. Our forthcoming sales will attract international buyers, ensuring that best prices are achieved for pieces of high quality.

For a free auction valuation of your fine jewellery, or indeed any antiques, fine art or collectables, a telephone call at local rates will put you in touch with the appropriate Phillips specialist. Only Phillips has a nationwide network of 23 salerooms so expert advice is never far away.

Phone Phillips First.
0345 573103 9am to 5pm Mon - Fri

Or post the coupon, preferably with a photograph, to:
Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS

Description of items _____

Your name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel _____

Phillips
INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

The great London auction house with a saleroom near you

Sudan rails at Ugandan 'occupation'

FROM REUTERS IN NAIROBI

UGANDAN troops are still occupying parts of Sudan's Eastern Equatoria province, the Sudanese Embassy here said yesterday.

Uganda has repeatedly denied Sudanese claims that its troops are supporting southern Sudanese rebels. It says, however, that Ugandan rebels of the Christian fundamentalist Lord's Resistance Army have bases in the Sudan. After Sudan said last week that its forces were moving towards the border, Uganda said that it would resist any threat to its territory.

Describing the presence of Ugandan troops as an "apparent occupation" of Sudanese territory, the embassy said: "The Government counter-offensive has already begun by striking the foreign military presence in Kit and Magawe." Commenting on claims by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army to be closing on Juba, the southern regional capital, it added: "It would be a fatal mistake for the SPLA and Ugandan troops to try to capture Juba."

Our ready-to-run PC package is the business.

£1,099
(£1,320.70 incl. delivery + VAT)

Increase the efficiency of your business with the Dell Dimension P75t. As well as all the advantages of a powerful 75MHz Pentium® processor, it comes pre-loaded with Microsoft® Windows® 95, and Microsoft Office® 95, innovative software designed to make everyday tasks easier to deal with. Our Openline™ Hardware Technical Support available 8am to 8pm weekdays and our one year "Collect and Return" warranty are also there to make sure everything runs smoothly. Give us a call today and get down to business with a Dell Dimension PC.

Designed for Microsoft Windows 95

- INTEL 75MHz PENTIUM PROCESSOR • 8Mb EDO RAM • 3.5" DISKETTE DRIVE
- 525Mb HARD DRIVE • INTEGRATED 64-BIT PCI LOCAL BUS VIDEO WITH 1Mb VIDEO MEMORY • 15" COLOUR SVGA MONITOR • 4 PCI AND 3 ISA EXPANSION SLOTS (1 SHARED)
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS • QUAD SPEED CD-ROM DRIVE
- MICROSOFT OFFICE 95 • MICROSOFT WINDOWS 95
- DELL MOUSE/KEYBOARD

01344 720000

DELL DIRECT

Our ready-to-run PC package is the business.

£1,099
(£1,320.70 incl. delivery + VAT)

Increase the efficiency of your business with the Dell Dimension P75t. As well as all the advantages of a powerful 75MHz Pentium® processor, it comes pre-loaded with Microsoft® Windows® 95, and Microsoft Office® 95, innovative software designed to make everyday tasks easier to deal with. Our Openline™ Hardware Technical Support available 8am to 8pm weekdays and our one year "Collect and Return" warranty are also there to make sure everything runs smoothly. Give us a call today and get down to business with a Dell Dimension PC.

Designed for Microsoft Windows 95

- INTEL 75MHz PENTIUM PROCESSOR • 8Mb EDO RAM • 3.5" DISKETTE DRIVE
- 525Mb HARD DRIVE • INTEGRATED 64-BIT PCI LOCAL BUS VIDEO WITH 1Mb VIDEO MEMORY • 15" COLOUR SVGA MONITOR • 4 PCI AND 3 ISA EXPANSION SLOTS (1 SHARED)
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS • QUAD SPEED CD-ROM DRIVE
- MICROSOFT OFFICE 95 • MICROSOFT WINDOWS 95
- DELL MOUSE/KEYBOARD

01344 720000

DELL DIRECT

Unlike any other single malt whisky, Knockando is bottled not at a pre-determined age, but only when taste confirms that its perfect, subtly complex balance has been achieved. This can be anything between twelve and fifteen years. And that's why we felt that it was the perfect partner for The Times Crossword.

Because it's impossible to say how long it's going to take.

KNOCKANDO
PURE SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

SPONSOR OF THE TIMES CROSSWORD CHAMPIONSHIP

Church berates Walesa's rival

Poland warned of 'pagan' takeover

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

PRESIDENT WALESA was running neck-and-neck with his rival, Aleksander Kwasniewski, a former communist, yesterday as Poles cast their votes to decide the next head of state, and simultaneously grappled with their past.

An early exit poll last night showed Mr Walesa, with 50.35 per cent, just ahead of his rival on 49.65 per cent, too close a margin to make any prediction about the final result.

Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Polish Roman Catholic Primate, said after voting in Warsaw that the nation faced a choice between Christian values and "neo-paganism". On the eve of polling, it had seemed that half of Poland was willing to contemplate — six years after the Solidarity revolution — a former communist President ruling alongside a parliament dominated by former communists and a government led by former communists. The reason was not so much the programme of

Mr Kwasniewski, which contains more or less the same mix of promises as the Solidarity leader, as the broad antipathy to Mr Walesa, who in the past five years as President has upset or alienated every part of Polish society. Even so, intellectuals and Solidarity-rooted parties have overcome their distaste for Mr Walesa and have been calling on the nation to back him.

Jerzy Turowicz, a close confidant of the Pope and editor of the influential Catholic weekly *Tygodnik Powszechny*, said a vote for Mr Kwasniewski "would put the presidency, the Government and parliament in the hands of the heirs of the regime toppled six years ago, an administration that for almost 50 years blocked the path to freedom, independence and democracy".

Nonetheless the lack of enthusiasm for the former Solidarity hero shone through: Mr Walesa's merits have not been mentioned in any of the public

appeals on his behalf. Artists supporting him are certainly not doing so out of self-interest: they have seen the culture budget shrink by more than a half since 1990.

A dozen bishops have publicly stated their preference for him. In the first round, a fortnight ago, priests urged their parishioners to vote against atheistic candidates — a clear reference to Mr Kwasniewski. Yet the signs are that the Church's influence on the behaviour of voters is declining.

In Minsk Mazowiecki, a rural community outside Warsaw, many farmers were yesterday saying that they would vote for Mr Kwasniewski in defiance of their priests. The reason is clear: market reform, everywhere apparent in the cities, has only barely registered in the countryside. Farmers remember the communist period as a time when they could sell their grain and produce at premium prices.



Prince Joachim and Princess Alexandra kissing after a traditional wedding waltz at Fredensborg Castle. Their honeymoon destination is a close secret

Royal wedding enthrals Danes

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

THE first royal wedding in Denmark in 28 years, the marriage of Prince Joachim, second in line to the throne, to Alexandra Manley, a Hong Kong economist, took place at the weekend.

It was staged in a flurry of regal pomp in the exquisite chapel of 17th-century Fredensborg Castle, stunningly sited on the lakeside at the town of Hillerød, north of Copenhagen, with Prince Joachim, 26, dressed in hussar uniform and Miss Manley, 31, wearing a white-embroidered Italian silk wedding dress, dotted with 9,000 pearls, complete with 128 train.

After an hour-long Lutheran ceremony on Saturday evening, the couple drove through Hillerød past thousands of flag-waving people who braved the cold to cheer them on their way to the nearby baroque Fredensborg Palace, the Royal Family's private residence.

There crowds had lined up with torch lights, and pipe and drum bands played. A gala pheasant and truffle banquet was held for 250

guests from seven nations, headed by Queen Margrethe II and her French husband, Prince Henrik. Prince Frederik, Prince Joachim's elder brother and heir to the throne, the kings and queens of Norway and Sweden, and a bevy of princes from Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain and Germany. The British Royal Family was represented by Prince Edward, a distant cousin of the groom.

During the festivities, television showed deserted city streets nationally as most people sat glued to their sets to follow the denouement of a rare royal romance in a country where the monarchy is fairly down-to-earth, untainted by controversy, and seemingly at its most popular.

Princess Alexandra's father, Richard Manley, is of English and Chinese descent while her Austrian mother, Christy, has Polish roots.

Gifts for the couple are said to have exceeded £1 million, including funds to restore their home, Schackenborg Castle.

Abrasive Chirac rounds on critics

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

WHEN ten European Union partners voted to condemn nuclear testing at the United Nations last week, the defiant response from President Chirac of France vividly demonstrated the aptness of his nickname, "Le Bulldozer".

M. Chirac cancelled a summit with Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, and postponed a meeting with Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian Prime Minister, after Belgium and Italy joined eight other EU member states to support a UN resolution calling for an immediate end to nuclear testing. Only Britain voted with France to oppose the resolution.

The incident said much about M. Chirac's emerging presidential style. After only six months in office, he has displayed a taste for confrontation that is at odds with the nuanced, sometimes machivellian, approach of his predecessor, François Mitterrand.

Quite apart from the controversial decision to resume nuclear testing, M. Chirac has won few friends among world leaders by putting frankness above subtlety. Relations with Signor Dini have been cool since the European summit in Cannes last June, when M. Chirac complained strongly about the negative effects on French agriculture of devaluing the lira. He also had sharp

words for Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, over his attitude to Bosnia-Herzegovina and personally took to task Wim Kok, the Dutch leader, for what Mr Chirac called a lax policy towards drug smuggling.

Charming in person, the President is often swift to take umbrage and abrasive if he feels honour is at stake. When a meeting in New York with his Algerian counterpart was suddenly cancelled last month, M. Chirac immediately held a press conference at which he claimed that President Zeroual was simply annoyed because he had turned down demands for a joint photographic session. This turned a tricky diplomatic situation into a mini-crisis.

M. Chirac has also stirred angry responses at home. Student protests over demands for more teachers and classrooms will culminate tomorrow in a national day of action; on Friday public sector workers are to take to the streets in protest at a planned overhaul of the welfare system announced last week.

However, Mr Chirac's tenacity may be starting to pay off. The latest polls show that his popularity is still falling, but at a significantly slower rate than before. "I'm not here to be popular," the President remarked recently.

Get 25,000
Bonus
Miles When
You Fly
To The U.S.

At American Airlines, we'll give you 25,000 bonus miles when you fly First or Business Class nonstop return from London to New York, Chicago or Boston by 31st December, 1995. AAdvantage members can use their miles to fly on other airlines too, including British Airways, British Midland, Japan Airlines, and also South African Airways. If you want to register for our bonus miles offer, give us a call on 0345 567 567.

Some of the places you can go with 25,000 miles:

- 2 return tickets to Amsterdam, Brussels or Paris.
- 1 return ticket to Athens, Barcelona, Helsinki, Istanbul, Madrid, Moscow, Prague, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna or Zurich.
- 1 return ticket within the U.S. and Canada.

American Airlines
Something special in the air.

American Airlines and AAdvantage are registered trademarks of American Airlines Inc. 25,000 bonus miles will be awarded to AAdvantage members who fly American Airlines nonstop return from London to New York, Chicago or Boston on a full fare First or Business Class ticket between 27 September and 31 December 1995. To be eligible, members must register by calling American. Only one 25,000 mile bonus can be earned per member. Bonus miles will be posted to qualified accounts by 29 February 1996. American Airlines reserves the right to change AAdvantage programme rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers without notice, and to end the AAdvantage programme with six months notice. ©1995 American Airlines Inc. All rights reserved.

INSTANT PRIZES UP TO £2,200 — LONGEST WORD WINS £5,000

Play £75,000 Scrabble

You can play our £75,000 Scrabble game using the numbers printed in *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. Numbers will be printed in *The Times* everyday. Printed below is the first set of numbers to play Game D in *The Times* only. More numbers will appear tomorrow.

There is a £5,000 jackpot to be won every week when you play our Longest Word game, FORESTALLED, by using letters you reveal from *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

How to play for prizes:

- Printed below are four numbers which you should scratch off on *The Times* Game D grid on your Scrabble gamecard today. Do not scratch any other numbers. By scratching the numbers you will reveal four letters. Using only the letters revealed on Game D, see if you can match any words on the Scrabble board. Each letter you have revealed can only be used once. If you can match a word on the board, you have won a prize and must make a claim today.
- LONGEST WORD GAME.** You can use any combination of the letters revealed this week on *The Times* Game D and *The Sunday Times* Game 4 to make the word FORESTALLED. If you succeed, ring the Scrabble hotline to make a claim for this week's £5,000 prize. You cannot use the combination of letters revealed on *The Times* Game D and *The Sunday Times* Game 4 to make any word other than FORESTALLED. If you missed the numbers printed in *The Sunday Times* to play Game 4, they were: 74, 76, 69, 63, 62, 80, 73, 72, 64, 75, 65, 66, 71, 61, 70 and 67.

If more than one valid claim is made for a prize, the money will be shared equally among the claimants.

THESE ARE THE NUMBERS TO SCRATCH OFF GAME D ON YOUR TIMES CARD

161	164
173	169

HOW TO CLAIM

If you can make a word on your Scrabble gamecard by playing *The Times* Game D or *The Sunday Times* Game 4, or make the word FORESTALLED with a combination of letters from both games, call the Scrabble hotline on 0171-987 0408 today, between 9.30am and 3pm. Have your gamecard with you when you claim. Late claims will not be valid.

سكرا من الامم

End of peace talks heralds 'make or break' for Bosnia

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BOSNIAN peace talks will conclude today either with the initialing of an agreement to end the war or with an announcement that the negotiations have broken down, the US State Department announced yesterday.

The talks could "go either way", said Nicholas Burns, the department's spokesman. Balkan sources claimed the negotiators were on the verge of reaching agreement, but American and European officials continued to give warnings that the deal could still come apart at the last minute.

Whatever happens, an event has been scheduled for this afternoon in Dayton, Ohio, that will either be a peace signing ceremony or an announcement that the intensive talks which began on November 1 have ended in failure and will be wrapped up.

President Tudjman left Croatia for America saying he expected the accord would be initialled today. Asked if the secret talks had come to fruition, he said: "It looks like it. If it wasn't so, they would not call me to come back." Other sources close to the negotia-

tions said delegates made progress late on Saturday and early yesterday and that a deal was imminent. One difficult issue was a demand by the Bosnian Government for America to lift the arms embargo and swiftly provide a significant array of tanks, artillery and aircraft, plus training and supplies, to insure a balance of power with the Serbs.

In the past, the Clinton Administration has said it would be ready to provide military support for the Muslim/Croat Federation after a peace deal, but has modified its stand as the idea has run into strenuous opposition from the Western European members of the Contact Group — Britain, France and Germany.

These governments believe that the only way to ensure a lasting peace is to disarm both sides. They also point to the impossibility of sending a neutral Nato force to supervise the peace if one side is receiving military support from Washington.

To add to the confusion, Mohamed Sacirbey, the Bosnian Foreign Minister, an-

nounced his resignation during a post-midnight round of drinks with reporters in a discotheque. Mr Sacirbey, who is a Muslim, said he was leaving so that a Bosnian Croat could take a senior post in the new Government under the envisaged ethnic power-sharing.

However, Mr Sacirbey was also believed to be unhappy with the settlement taking shape and annoyed by the leading role in the negotiations assumed by his rival, Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister. It was not clear when Mr Sacirbey's resignation would take effect.

The urgent push for an agreement in recent days is a calculated change of strategy by Richard Holbrooke, chief negotiator for the Clinton Administration, with allied support. When the talks started, Mr Holbrooke said they were open-ended and could last up to three months. Since then, he has come to realise that the more time the negotiators were given, the more they tended to prevaricate, and so has been applying pressure on delegates for a result.



Fire drill: a training fire on the busy transcontinental Route 66 south of Phoenix, Arizona, brought together fire-fighters from several areas at the weekend. The property was being destroyed after its owner abandoned hope of finding a buyer

Congress moves to salvage budget

BY IAN BRODIE

PRESIDENT CLINTON reacted positively yesterday to a new Republican offer to end the budget impasse that has caused a partial shutdown of the American Government for the past week.

"They have obviously moved in the right direction," said Leon Panetta, the President's Chief of Staff, who was on his way to another negotiating session with the Republican leadership on Capitol Hill. "But they still have a way to go," he added.

Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, remained rancorous and accused Mr Clinton of misleading and frightening elderly Americans into thinking their healthcare benefits would be cut. However, Mr Gingrich also held out hope for yesterday's negotiations.

The latest offer adheres to the Republicans' insistence that Mr Clinton must agree to balance the federal budget within seven years, but offers some flexibility on how that would be achieved.

To the irritation of most Americans, the deadlock between the President and the Republican majority in Congress has come down to arcane disagreements over economic forecasts. The Republicans have relied on conservative estimates from the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, but Mr Clinton prefers the more optimistic views of his own Office of Management and Budget.

Mr Clinton's estimates show a rosy economy which would give the Government more money to spend so that cuts in medical, welfare and education programmes would not need to be as severe as he claims the Republican plans would be. Until yesterday, the Republicans had refused to budge, but their new proposal calls for the budget to be estimated by the Congressional Budget Office "following a thorough consultation and review with the White House Office of Management and Budget and with other government and private experts."

The switch might be enough to unlock an interim spending Bill that would finance government operations for the 1996 financial year that began on October 1.



Dole: spent \$2m on Florida campaign

Pyrrhic victory for Dole

FROM TOM RHODES IN ORLANDO

ROBERT DOLE won a critical straw poll in Florida yesterday but for the Magic Kingdom of Orlando the Republican prince's crown was one with little lustre.

After weeks of courting 3,400 delegates from Florida's 67 electoral counties, on which he spent \$2 million (£1.25 million), Mr Dole achieved only 33 per cent in the poll, leaving Phil Gramm, the Texas senator, and Lamar Alexander, the former Tennessee Governor, within striking distance of the Republican nomination.

A subdued Scott Reed, the Dole campaign chief-of-staff, was less than convincing as he walked out of the Orlando convention centre. "A win is a win," he said. Privately, the Dole camp is depressed. Despite earlier predictions of at least 40 per cent in Florida and gifts to delegates of anything from free hotel rooms to dance lessons, the senator had achieved only lukewarm support.

Last night Mr Dole had some cheerful news: Newt Gingrich announced that he has decided not to seek the presidential nomination. Mr Gingrich indicated that his wife, Marianne, and younger daughter had talked yesterday about his running for the White House. He said: "Probably, we're going to announce — I would say early next week, or the week after — that I'm not going to run."

Elaborate land swaps hold key to deal in Dayton



THE search by American negotiators to forge a peace package to wrap up the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina after nearly four years and 200,000 deaths has involved an elaborate game of land swaps.

Although the Bosnian Serbs and the Croat/Muslim Federation have carved up Bosnia between them on an approximate 50-50 basis through military operations, four key territorial issues have threatened to unhinge the peace negotiations at Dayton.

The Americans have kept the talks so secret that even the four other Contact Group members — Britain, France, Germany and Russia — have been informed of progress only on a general basis.

Some of the group's original proposals, including the plan for Sarajevo to be administered by the United Nations for two years, may be discarded. One bizarre idea, to build a flyover for the Bosnian Muslims over the Serb-controlled Posavina corridor in the north-east to allow them a link with the port of Brcko on the Sava river, also seems unlikely to survive.

Territorial issues causing the greatest headache for negotiators have been: the future status of Sarajevo; the Posavina corridor that links Serbia proper to the Bosnian Serb territories in north-west Bosnia; the Serb demand for an outlet to the Adriatic; and the Muslims' insistence on a large slice of land linking Sarajevo to Gorazde, their last enclave in eastern Bosnia.

The proposal to hand over

America has cloaked details of the talks in secrecy. Other members of the Contact Group have received only general information, Michael Evans writes

the running of Sarajevo to the UN has been rejected by the Serbs who said the move would merely postpone a long-term solution for two years for the capital. Bosnian Serbs still insist that, to protect the 120,000 Serbs living there, Sarajevo should be divided into districts, allowing each a degree of autonomy. The Muslims want the capital to be unified under Bosnian administration.

Sarajevo's future has been the most sensitive and complex aspect of the negotiations because it represents for Muslims the single most important symbol of their dream to retain a unified Bosnian state.

While the Bosnian Government is intent on creating a strong central administration, the Serbs want the real power to be handed to the two separate Serb and Croat/Muslim Federation entities, which are to control 49 per cent and 51 per cent, respectively, of a unified Bosnia.

The Muslims have always sought to maintain a powerful central administration, arguing it was the sole guarantee against a de facto division of Bosnia between its Serbian and Croatian neighbours.

A land corridor to Gorazde has also been a crucial element at Dayton. With Zepa and Srebrenica in Serb

hands, it was at one time suggested that the Muslims should also surrender Gorazde in return for more land around Sarajevo. But the talks have focused on keeping Gorazde under the Croat/Muslim Federation, with a guaranteed link to Sarajevo.

The most controversial land deal envisaged has involved territory around the Posavina corridor, only two or three miles wide. Since the Bosnia war began in April 1992, the Serbs have tried to widen the corridor to prevent Muslim

and Croat forces targeting their main supply route along the northern border to Banja Luka. The talks are understood to have been faced with a demand from the Serbs at least to double the corridor's width, encroaching on the Orasje pocket where there is a large Croat community.

For three years, Serbs have also fought for access to the Adriatic and it now seems there may be an agreement in principle that Croatia will allow them a thin strip of land to the sea, close to the border with Montenegro at the Croatian ports of Prevlaka and Molunat.

In exchange, the Serbs would cede land around Dubrovnik, meaning the withdrawal of Serb guns from within range of the historic walled city.

Serb war crimes plea

Belgrade: A pro-government Serbian newspaper called yesterday for an investigation into alleged massacres by Bosnian Serbs after they captured the United Nations "safe area" of Srebrenica, and said the guilty had to be punished.

Politika newspaper said Serbs had to expose war crimes committed by their own side if they wanted Mus-

lim and Croat war criminals to be brought to justice. "If there were Serbs who were able to kill a child or shoot an old man in the back, they must be punished," said the paper which usually reflects the views of the Serbian leadership. "This is the best way to wash the shame from the faces of brave Serb soldiers who fought for their state." (Reuters)

Are you feeling the Cold?..

Damart have lots of ways of keeping you warm this winter — with its unique Thermolactyl Fabric.

DAMART THERMOLACTYL

Adding Warmth & Comfort to your Life

PHONE **01274 566666**

24 hours a day — everyday — for your free catalogue.

Or write to Damart, Dept. 804-080, Bowling Green Mills, Bingley, BD16 4BR.

The Original **Rummikub**

BIGGER IN EUROPE THAN A BUTTER MOUNTAIN!

FIND OUT WHY

ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR GAMES IN THE WORLD

BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER... FIND OUT WHY

Complete peace of mind guaranteed for life.

LIMITED OFFER £24.99 INC VAT

MOTOROLA

LATEST GSM MODEL 7500.
◆ 90 mins talk-time ◆ 15 hrs stand-by-time ◆ Caller line identity ◆ One-touch turbo dialling ◆ Complete with rapid charger and standard battery ◆ Weight approx 275g

FREE MOTOROLA PERSONAL WORLD

Monthly Rental	£17.63 (£15 + VAT)
Peak Rate Calls	42p per min (35p + VAT)
Off Peak Rate	18p per min (15p + VAT)

Local call rates are 1.00-1.000 Min to UK. Standard rates apply to all other countries. The above rates are subject to change without notice. Calls charged at 20p per min with the local call. Service areas 12.00-18.00 Mon-Fri 10.00-18.00 Sat.

LIFETIME GUARANTEE

AGAINST PRODUCT FAILURE & TARIFF PRICE INCREASES

LIMITED OFFER £19.99 INC VAT

NOKIA

GSM MODEL 2010.
◆ 99 mins talk-time ◆ 30 hrs stand-by-time ◆ Complete with standard battery and rapid travel charger ◆ Weight approx 320g

14 DAY PEACE OF MIND

Should you not wish to proceed with your order, simply return the phone to us in its original condition and packaging within 14 days of receipt and we'll refund your money.

The Cellphones Direct Exclusive Package:

- FREE Lifetime product warranty
- FREE Line rental until January 1996
- FREE Connection to Vodafone PersonalWorld
- FREE In-car adaptor charger
- FREE Leather travel case
- FREE Delivery within 4 working days

PLUS No Tariff price increases guaranteed for life

AND Up to £35 Airtime Cash Back

Together worth up to £175

**Terms and conditions available on request*

Cellphones direct

THE NAME TO TRUST IN TELEPHONE SHOPPING

FREephone 0500 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 6PM WEEKENDS 9AM TO 6PM

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT HANDY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REF 2598 (SOME WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)

Offer subject to terms and a standard airline contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd.

185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LN. Written terms and conditions available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 2995222.

TENNIS



25

Home win provides Becker's crowning glory

FOOTBALL



29

Boy from Brazil keeps up with the Joneses

RUGBY UNION



32

England bow to the new world order

SCHOOLS SPORT

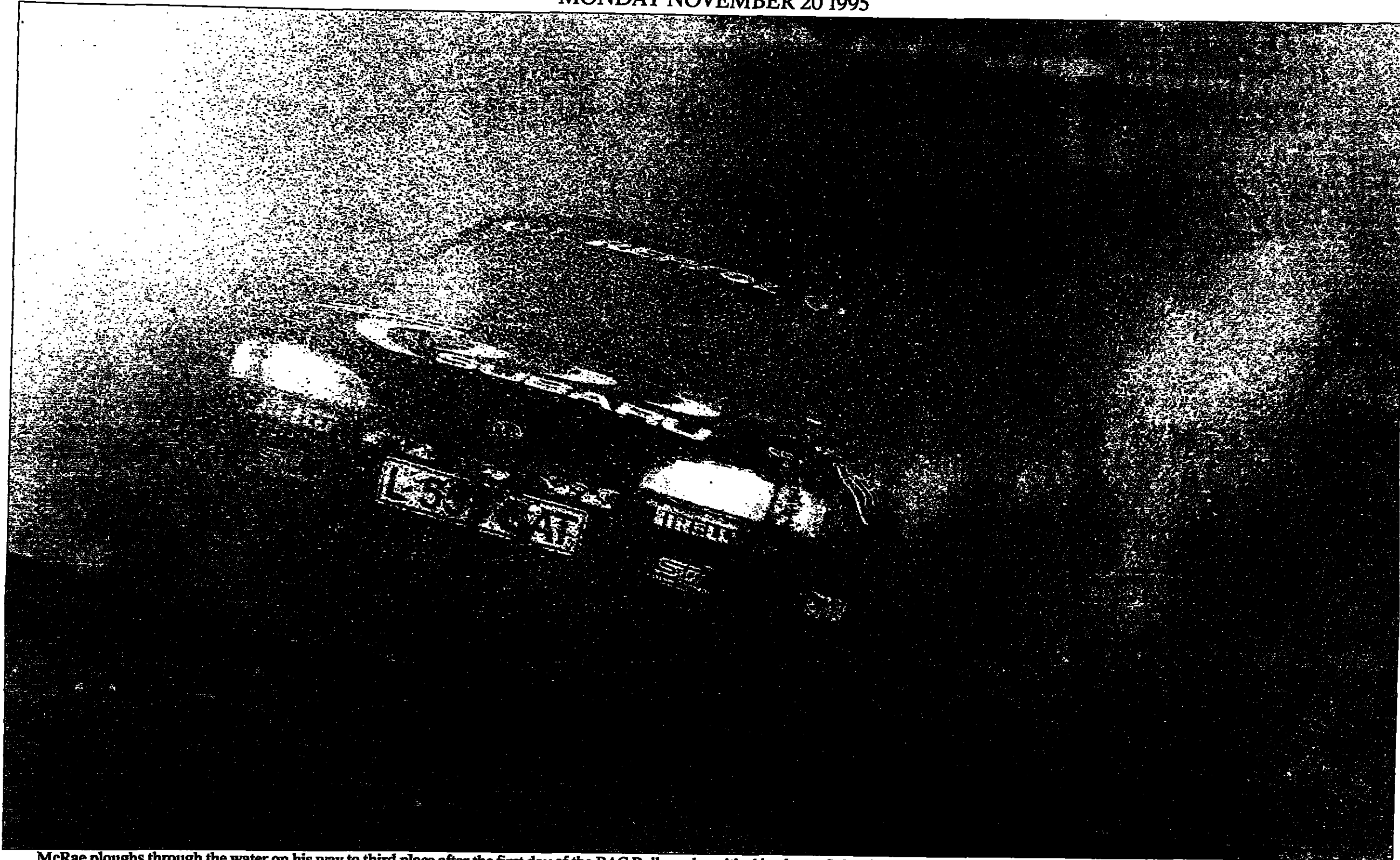


33

Trying to compete on level playing field

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY NOVEMBER 20 1995



McRae ploughs through the water on his way to third place after the first day of the RAC Rally and a critical lead over Sainz, his rival for the world rallying championship. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Scot leads bitter rival as title race enters final phase

W 'T E' Calm McRae edges away

By OLIVER HOLT

COLIN McRAE was in third place at the end of the first day of the Network Q RAC Rally last night, but he was happy. A Finn and a Swede wiped out the early lead he had established but he did not care. McRae, who is attempting to become Britain's first world rallying champion, was ahead of his team-mate, Carlos Sainz, and that was all that mattered.

From its start here in Chester early yesterday morning to its overnight halt in Leeds, all eyes were on the race within the rally, the grudge match between the Scot and the Spaniard. The first day, traditionally, is seen as a synthetic, spectator-orientated prelude to the real action but this year the stakes are so high that the tension was evident from the moment the drivers screeched off the starting ramp.

The protagonists were not concerned about any of the others, either. In a rally shorn of the suspended Toyota team and its leading driver, Juha Kankkunen, McRae and Sainz allowed Tommi Makinen and Kenneth Eriksson, in their Mitsubishi Lancers, to steal into a modest lead as they shadowed each other like nervous assassins trying to manoeuvre for the killshot. The championship leaders had 70 points entering this, the final round, and neither could afford a mistake before the event enters its proving ground in the Kielder Forest today.

They were so closely matched that they set identical times on three successive

stages — timed dashes from one point to another — as the drivers climbed over the Pennines and dusk began to fall. On others, they were separated by just a second. Sainz, who took the world championship in 1990 and 1992, won the first stage, McRae the second, before they allowed the Mitsubishi to take control. Only on the second stage, at Chatsworth, where Sainz's Subaru Impreza sustained a damaged radiator when it hit the water splash particularly hard, was McRae able to gain a significant advantage.

By the end of the day, McRae, who became the first Briton to win his home event for 18 years when he triumphed last year, had edged out a gap of 14 seconds on the double world champion. It could be doubled or wiped out when they tackle the longest stage in world rallying today but it left the Scot the happier of the two. "It is a sunny day and Carlos is behind," McRae said, "so all is well."

There was no hint in either of their public utterances of the bitterness that has added an extra edge to a contest that would have been fraught anyway. Last month, in the Catalonian Rally, McRae was forced to adhere to team orders and let Sainz win on home ground. McRae, furious, obeyed only at the last minute and in a manner which made it crystal clear he could have won. Sainz felt his team-mate had not acted hon-

ourably. They have attempted a *rapprochement* but it has been only partially successful and, if their words were not unkind yesterday, their faces, peering out of the windows of their blue and yellow cars as they spoke to roving interviewers, betrayed the anger that drove their determination.

This time there are no team orders and, barring accidents or mechanical failures, it seems certain to be a fight right to the finish on Wednesday. "I'm happy with my position," Sainz said. "Now my focus is on reaching the end of the rally without making any mistakes — and overtaking Colin in the process."

Ironically, though, the injustice that most believe was perpetrated on McRae in Spain appears to have worked to his benefit. The right to compete is what every sportsman holds dear and its public abrogation is bound to mobilise opinion in favour of the wronged man. His actions did not endear him to the management of Prodrive, which runs the Subaru team, but that was forgotten a few days later when Sainz announced he was to leave for the now disgraced Toyota team next season.

"I think it's going to be difficult for Carlos throughout the rally," McRae said. "It is going to be interesting. There will be an atmosphere within the team. I know the mechanics were all very disappointed

in Spain. All these guys are behind me. He's going to feel like a bit of an outsider and he must be feeling that already."

"If something happens during this event and I fail to win the world championship by three or four points then the events in Spain will have proved crucial," McRae said. "To say I will be angry if that is the case is an understatement. Still, it's always a relief to reach the end of the first day on this event. Many good drivers have seen their rallies come to an early finish."

McRae, who used to be notorious for his wild driving and his early exits from rallies, has led the RAC Rally before at this stage only to come to grief in the forests. But his driving has shown increasing maturity in the past 12 months and there was only one minor alarm yesterday when he sent some hay bales flying early in the day when he went wide at a corner.

"I think he would rather be hitting the straw today than a tree in Kielder tomorrow," David Richards, the Prodrive managing director, said. One of the many competitors who will not make it that far is Ian Jones, an assistant bank manager from Leicestershire. His Vauxhall Nova failed to reach the end of the first stage and, after a few agonising minutes trying to diagnose the problem with his car, the engineers discovered that he had in fact run out of petrol.

TOMORROW'S STAGES: Stage 8: Hemmelsley (16.93mi); Stage 9: Puddingstone (26.81mi); Stage 10: Beccles (11.45mi); Stage 11: Walslop (6.50mi); Stage 12: Kershop (22.54mi); Stage 13: Grindale West (17.30mi); Stage 14: Grindale East (4.73mi).

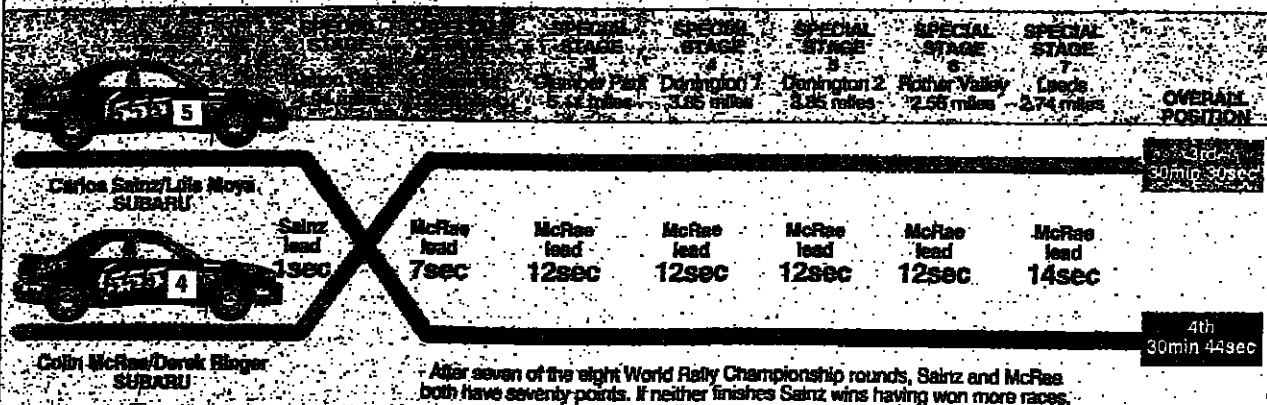
FIRST DAY

LEADING POSITIONS (after seven stages): 1. T. Makinen and S. Harjane (Fin, Mitsubishi) 30min 18sec; 2. K. Eriksson and S. Parmender (Swe, Mitsubishi) 30:25; 3. C. McRae and D. Ringer (GB, Subaru) 30:30; 4. C. Sainz and I. Moya (Sp, Subaru) 30:44; 5. B. Thy and S. Prevot (Bel, Ford) 31:05; 6. M. Wilson and B. Thomas (GB, Ford) 31:11; 7. A. McRae and C. Wood (GB, Ford) 31:19; 8. G. de Mevius and J. M. Fortin (Bel, Ford) 31:42; 9. R. Burns and R. Reid (GB, Subaru) 32:13; 10. A. Navarra and R. Casazza (It, Toyota) 32:43.



McRae grudge match

HOW McRAE BUILT HIS FIRST-DAY LEAD



After seven of the eight World Rally Championship rounds, Sainz and McRae both have seventy points. If neither finishes Sainz wins having won more races.

LESS

to pay

each month when you take advantage of the

COMPETITIVE

interest rates offered on all our Loans for Homeowners. Clear your existing debts with just one monthly payment. It's

SIMPLE

to manage and you may even end up with some **EXTRA** cash at the end of the month. So, don't waste time.

Call Now **FREE** on **0800 908927**

Loan Value	APR Variable	EXAMPLES	15 years	20 years	25 years
Under £10,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£10,000 - £20,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£20,000 - £30,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£30,000 - £40,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£40,000 - £50,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£50,000 - £60,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£60,000 - £70,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£70,000 - £80,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£80,000 - £90,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77
£90,000 - £100,000	12.9%	£20,000	£24.36	£20.00	£14.77

SEE US ON TELETEXT CHANNEL 4 PAGE 538

THE LOAN CORPORATION

POST THIS COUPON FREEPOST TODAY!

TO THE LOAN CORPORATION, FREEPOST, PO BOX 3822, BRACKNELL, RG12 12S. (NO STAMP REQUIRED)

I AM INTERESTED IN BORROWING £ _____ OVER _____ YEARS

PROPERTY VALUE £ _____ MORTGAGE BALANCE £ _____

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

BBC slides into full panic mode over Captain Magnificent

When, oh when (as they say on *Points of View*) will the BBC wake up to the fact that everything that happens at an international sporting event is news. Riots, streakers, injuries, whatever — if it takes place on or around the field of play, we viewers can surely expect to see what is going on.

Not according to the censorious BBC. As Will Carling lay seemingly seriously injured on the pitch, the BBC's cameras treated us to an aerial tour of the new Twickenham, with Nigel Starmer-Smith waxing maddeningly lyrical about "this magnificent edifice".

What about Captain Magnificent, screamed several million anxious England supporters? Was he still unconscious, who was treating him, what are the emergency medical facilities like at Twickenham, why did they need another stretcher...? The questions grew, but answers came there none.

The BBC had gone into full panic mode. Faced with a replay that showed Carling being awkwardly engulfed by a ton and half of forwards and the evidence of a brief shot showing the England captain unconscious and apparently in distress, the BBC imperiously decided that the nation's

eyes should be averted. With the hapless Starmer-Smith (presumably) rapidly running out of architectural inanities, you got the distinct impression that it would not be long before someone started playing sombre music.

The BBC will no doubt respond by saying that its cameras should not intrude at a medical emergency and, indeed, they should not. But nor should they ignore it. An unobtrusive long shot would have enabled us to see what was going on without revealing any grim medical procedure, while at the same time



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

allowing Starmer-Smith and Bill Beaumont to commentate sensibly. As former England international they must know a little about serious neck injuries and, as BBC commentators, they should know a lot about medical facilities at Twickenham.

What the emergency also

revealed was the lack of a touchline reporter, a position which has become the norm for coverage of most ball games and which the BBC itself used to good effect in its coverage of the rugby league world cup. Julian Tait was in the tunnel for some slightly awkward post-match inter-

views, so surely he could have been called on to provide further journalistic assistance, particularly once Carling had been stretchered off.

The Carling incident apart, it was the proverbial day of mixed fortune for the BBC. Successes included superb replays of Chester Williams clearly scoring a legitimate first try and Rob Andrew's impressively eloquent debut as studio expert. Failures, however, included cameras that were positioned too high to determine whether goal-kicks had gone over or under the crossbar; a curious close-up of Williams dropping his

shorts at half-time and, most importantly of all, the missing of Joel Stranks's punch. The latter indicates that the BBC has made no progress in working out how to capture off-the-ball incidents since it became a recurring problem during the last five nations' championship.

The challenge is a difficult one, with British camera operators and producers trained to follow the ball not the player. But I am sure that the problem can be solved — I still think there are lessons to be learnt from coverage of American football, where there is a long tradition of specific cameras

following the players rather than the ball.

By contrast, in South Africa there appears to be a long tradition of cameras following specific spectators, judging by the number of bikini-clad beauties that have into view between overs during Sky's coverage of the first Test. Sky says it hadn't noticed and most of the pictures were provided by the South African Broadcasting Corporation. Whoever fields the blame, let us hope that the rain has dampened their ardour. Perhaps not quite everything that happens at an international sporting event is news after all.

England find silver lining in stalemate

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN PRETORIA

PRETORIA has received a quarter of its annual rainfall this weekend, which is cause for celebration among the farmers of the high veld but depressing for all those involved in cricket. The first Test match that England have played in South Africa for 30 years will now be remembered primarily as one of the wettest in recent memory.

A second successive abandonment, confirmed shortly after lunch yesterday, dispelled any remaining prospect of an England victory and consigned the game to stalemate. The final day will be academic. Even if the weather relents, the best England can hope for is enough cricket to give the bowlers some essential match practice and to undermine further the confidence of the South Africans.

This has been a mortifying match for the host country. It always seemed questionable thinking to stage the first game of the series in an untried and somewhat remote venue, and its viability depended on near-capacity crowds on both days of the weekend.

The financial setback, however, has been matched by the deflation of the South African team spirits. One member of their camp sighed yesterday that they have got only three things wrong this week — their team, the toss and the song.

The song is an excruciatingly out-of-tune rendition of *Dreadlock Holiday*, recorded by the players as a team anthem. It is expected to be a colossal hit, though whether that will cover their embarrassment is doubtful. The other two matters are more serious. It was as misguided to select an exclusively seam attack as it was to give

England first use of an inoffensive pitch. Both decisions were preconceived and took no account of the conditions.

The weather may have saved them from exposure, but these tactics suggest a narrowness that the South Africans must shed. With the fitness of Brett Schultz, the fitness of Brett Schultz, the fitness of Brett Schultz, they may do so today by including the exotic left-arm spin bowler, Paul Adams, in their squad for the next Test, in Johannesburg. Adams continues to excite popular interest here, but with three fast bowlers among the South Africa selectors, it will be no surprise if they stubbornly persevere with pace.

Fanie de Villiers, a missing link of incalculable importance, is a long way from fitness and, although Shaun Pollock has impressed greatly on his debut, the reliance on Allan Donald is even greater than had seemed likely. If England continue to play him as well as they have done here, the series is there to be won.

England's main concern is to keep their bowlers in work. Two of the Test attack, Dominic Cork and Richard Illingworth, have not bowled competitively for a fortnight, and there is a chance that the need to employ them against Free State later this week will mean Mark Ilett and Peter Martin missing a third consecutive match.

Events in this curtailed game, however, have encouraged England far more than the home side. They have avoided defeat in the first Test of a tour for the first time in four years, they have batsmen in form and — the greatest rarity at this stage of a trip — they are unencumbered by injuries. It is the South Africans who will move on with anxiety.



Taylor sweeps all before him during the century that gave Australia control of the second Test against Pakistan

Taylor puts Australia in charge

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN HOBART

TO WIN the second Test against Australia, and go to Sydney next week with the series tied at 1-1, Pakistan must make 376 in the last innings of a match that has confounded everybody's expectations. They have two days to do it but, to put matters into perspective, they have never made more than 315 to win a Test match, and the fact that they achieved that score at Karachi last year adds piquancy to the situation.

As everybody knows by now, it was during that match, which Pakistan won by a single wicket, that Salim Malik, then the captain, allegedly attempted to bribe Shane Warne and Tim May, the Australian spinners. A judicial tribunal rejected the claims last month.

Salim is not playing, unable to grip a bat properly after having his left thumb opened up at Brisbane. Nor can Warne take any further part in the match. Waqar Younis broke his left toe with a yorker on the first day and the best Warne can hope for is a clean bill of health for Sydney, which may not be forthcoming.

So this giddy waltz continues apace, the dancers flung together by happenstance as the music whirs around

them. Without their leg spinner, who took 11 wickets in the first Test, Australia dismissed the touring team for 198 on Saturday and must be favoured to secure the series, possibly with a day to spare if Pakistan bat as recklessly as they did in the first innings. They still have all their wickets intact but Aamir Sohail retired hurt before stumps with a thigh strain.

There are times when a team declares itself and the start of Australia's second innings proved to be one of those defining moments. There were 24 overs left on Saturday, an "in-between" session that could have been awkward had a wicket or two gone down. Furthermore,

Wasim Akram ran in with purpose, stinging the batsmen's curls and earning a no-ball call from Dick Bird when he pinged three successive bouncers at Mark Taylor.

Taylor, with mighty assistance from Michael Slater won the battle. By the end of the day the openers had put 107 on the board, bracingly and at times brilliantly. This was batting of the highest class and revealed the confidence and sheer zest of a team that bristles with the right sort of aggression. Waqar, clobbered for 32 from four overs, left the attack a broken reed.

What a player Slater is. People worry that he plays too many strokes when the shine

is on the ball but when he takes the fight to the bowlers, as he did here with an array of cracking pulls, the shine is not on it for long. The very first ball yesterday, from Wasim, he smashed behind square leg for four and when he was out leg before to Mushaq's flipper shortly afterwards he had made 73 sparkling runs that were worth many more.

Mushtaq toiled away, as he did in the first innings, to finish with nine wickets in the match. He appeared far too often, as is his custom, but he has done more than anybody to keep Pakistan in with a winning chance. Wasim shouldered a manly burden and had to because Waqar, despite ending Taylor's innings on 123, is clearly short of full pace. He feels he can regain it but dodgy backs have been known to end many a fast bowler's career, and he does not yet trust himself to charge in flat out.

Taylor played a typically steady hand in making his fourteenth hundred in 68 Tests. Anybody who has a feel for the game must admire him for harnessing his ability as a batsman, and for subtly altering the emphasis of this team. A year after inheriting the job from Allan Border, he has made it very much his own without once straining for effect. By tonight he should have won his third Test series.

SCOREBOARD FROM HOBART

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 267 (M E Waugh 88; Mushaq 41; 115)	
Second Innings	
M A Taylor b Waqar	123
M J Slater b Mushaq	73
D C Boon c Waqar b Mushaq	0
M E Waugh b Waqar	0
S R Waugh c Moh b Akram	29
G S Blewett c Akram b Waqar	11
I A Healy c Mushtaq b Waqar	24
P R Redden b Mushaq	0
C J McDermott c Waqar b Mushaq	20
G McGrath not out	2
S R Waugh absent injured	0
Extras (b 6, lb 5, w 1, nb 9)	21
Total	267
FALL OF WICKETS 1-24, 2-24, 3-79, 4-126, 5-150, 6-155, 7-173, 8-183, 9-198	
BOWLING: McGrath 19-6-5, Redden 15-6-5-4, M E Waugh 8-0-23-0, S R Waugh 6-0-18-1	
Second Innings	
Salim Elahi not out	7
Aamir Sohail not out	9
Ramiz Raja not out	6
Extras (b 2)	2
Total (no wickets)	15
BOWLING: McGrath 4-2-6-0, McGrath 4-1-1-0, Redden 1-0-0-0	
Umpires: H D Bird (Eng) and D B Har (Aus)	

Headley presses cup claims

FROM PAT GIBSON IN MULTAN

IT WOULD be foolish to predict that Dean Headley is going to follow his father and grandfather into Test cricket purely on the strength of his performances for the England A team in Pakistan, but he is thrusting himself forward as a candidate for the World Cup, which will be staged on the sub-continent early next year.

John Emburey, the team manager, confirmed as much last night after Headley, grandson of the legendary George and son of Ron, who played for Worcestershire, had bowled England A to the brink of victory in the first of their three five-day international matches.

When the umpires brought the third day to a farcical close by deciding that the light had gone despite the fact that Salisbury, the leg spinner, had just been struck for four and some of the England players were still wearing sunglasses, Pakistan A were 115 for five, still 75 runs away from avoiding an innings defeat.

England had Headley to thank for their position of strength. He had bowled well for little reward in Pakistan A's first innings. When they went in again, 190 behind, he bowled even better, shouldering extra responsibility because Giddins had a side strain and White was off the field with a high temperature and producing figures of three for 25 in 20 overs.

It was a considerable effort in unforgiving conditions. "I think he could do a good job in the World Cup," Emburey said. "When the tour reports are handed in, his name could well go forward as a candidate." The irony is that Headley was not originally chosen for the tour. He was called in when Martin was promoted to the senior side to replace the injured Johnson.

Had it not been for Asif Mujtaba, the only batsman of any quality in the Pakistan side, England would probably have won inside three days. Pakistan's best 18 players are

in Australia, but if these are the next best, they are in more trouble than we thought.

PAKISTAN A: First Innings 137 (Shadi Akram 52; 110; K Salim 5-30)	
Second Innings	
Mohammad Ramzan c Piper b Headley	12
Shadi Akram b b Headley	20
Shadab Khan b b Headley	1
Araf Mushtaq not out	36
Saeed Akram b Headley	10
Naved Razvi c Piper b Headley	15
Akram Raza not out	10
Extras (b 2, lb 4, nb 2)	8
Total (two wickets)	115
BOWLING: Headley 20-10-25-3, Giddins 22-11-67-4, Naved 15-6-48-1, Naved 18-3-59-0, Raza 24-6-51-1, Asif 12-3-22-3	
Umpires: Shadi Khan and Mian Muhammad Aamir	

ENGLAND A: First Innings	
N V Knight c Younis b Asif	46
J E R Giffen b Asif	82
N Hussain c Raza b Naved	52
McGrath c Younis b Akram Raza	0
R C Iann b Asif	58
C White b b Kabir	19
R J Piper c Shadab b Zafar	48
D W Headley b Mohammad	13
E S H Giffen not out	1
Extras (b 2, lb 6, nb 14)	22
Total	267
FALL OF WICKETS 1-119, 2-120, 3-121, 4-213, 5-224, 6-274, 7-291, 8-292, 9-321	
BOWLING: Kabir 23-7-72-5, Mohammad 22-11-67-4, Naved 15-6-48-1, Naved 18-3-59-0, Raza 24-6-51-1, Asif 12-3-22-3	
Umpires: Shadi Khan and Mian Muhammad Aamir	

Britain achieve target with Simpson goal

THERE was an added spring in Great Britain's step after they followed up the 2-1 victory over Germany on Saturday with a splendid 1-0 win against China in the women's hockey Olympic qualifying tournament in Cape Town yesterday.

Sue Slocombe, the Great Britain coach, was the first to admit that it had not been an exciting or skillful contest against the physical approach adopted by China, but she was delighted that the team have secured their target of five points after three matches.

The win on Saturday against the Olympic silver medal-winners had taken its toll on the players, and they lacked the same speed of purpose around the pitch. Tight marking by both sides led to a crowded midfield and neither team was able to create many clear-cut chances.

Sue MacDonald missed a great chance in the ninth minute when she hesitated and was dispossessed, and the

Chinese sweeper, Yang Hong-Bing, cleared a Sue Fraser penalty corner strike off the line.

As the second half progressed a scoreless draw seemed imminent but Rhona Simpson made a fine break to put her team ahead in the 56th minute. Her compatriots, Pauline Robertson and Fraser, had scored a goal in each half against Germany, and the Scottish forward kept up the record.

Beating two defenders, she drew the goalkeeper and although moving at pace away from goal, she deftly reverse-kicked the ball into an empty net. It was her first goal for Great Britain.

Slocombe said that the team tired in the final 20 minutes, but had dug deep when it mattered. She added: "It was a tough battle and I thought that Karen Brown was outstanding against their most dangerous forward. We'll celebrate before focusing on tomorrow's match against Korea."

Results 31

whether he possesses the necessary will or concentration.

John Parrott, Jimmy White and Ronnie O'Sullivan, who have all won the UK title in the 1990s, enjoyed untroubled passages through to the last 32 on Saturday.

Parrott, the 1991 winner, highlighted a 9-2 victory over Jamie Woodman with a 135 total clearance in the penultimate frame and White, whose last ranking-event triumph came at the Guild Hall three years ago, dismissed Matt Wilson 9-5.

In many respects, however, it was the display of O'Sullivan which impressed. The player who, in 1993, defeated Stephen Hendry in the UK final when still a week short of his 18th birthday, included breaks of 108, 87, 71 and 70 in beating Steve Meakin 9-3.

Saddled by continuing family problems, O'Sullivan lost his initial contest in the Thailand Classic and Skoda Grand Prix, but against Meakin he appeared more focused. Significantly, O'Sullivan was his usual gregarious self after being subdued on and off the table for so long.

"It's horrible being beaten, but I'm not the kind of person to dwell on it," O'Sullivan, who has slipped from third to seventh in the provisional world rankings, said. "I feel better in myself. I'm more relaxed than I have been and I think it's time to start winning again."

1996 CRICKET INSURANCE TEST SERIES

INDIA
Rajiv Gandhi 1-100
Kapil Dev 1-100
Tendulkar 1-100
Tendulkar 1-100

PAKISTAN
Inzamam-ul-Haq 1-100
Saeed Anwar 1-100
Saeed Anwar 1-100
Saeed Anwar 1-100

OFFICIAL TICKET LINE
0990 33 88 33

BOOK NOW
Specialist travel services

DISCOVER WHAT RORY'S GOT IN HIS BOX

Catch this unique combination of brilliant impressions and genuine sporting action as Rory Bremner, using his own words and wit, creates a video montage of cricket's most amusing moments ever.

RUN OUT AND BUY IT

from a video store near you for just £12.99 rrp.

PolyGram Video

German plans new attack on No 1 spot after taking ATP tour title

Resurgent Becker too powerful for Chang

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN FRANKFURT

BORIS BECKER'S sense of drama, which had illuminated the end of season tournament, stayed with him to the end. Nobody else could so fittingly have brought down the curtain on the last ATP Tour championship final to be staged in the Festhalle, his favourite indoor arena.

With a typically explosive ace, his 24th of the afternoon and his 802nd of the year, he completed the event which is to be staged in Hanover for the next four years. The parting blow was worth \$1,225,000 (about £790,000), the prize for subduing the indefatigable Michael Chang 7-6, 6-0, 7-6.

The greater reward, though, was the satisfaction Becker gained. It had been mounting throughout the week. He came through a tense tie-break in the final set of his first round-robin match and, after being beaten by Pete Sampras, had to win his last match in straight sets against Yevgeny Kafelnikov to survive.

Six times he was on the verge of failing and he was in danger again during a prolonged semi-final against

assumed control and never relinquished it. He took the first four points off Chang's improved service in the tie-break and won it 7-3.

Becker then elevated his game to the sublime and achieved a feat which had taken place at such a rarefied level only twice in 25 years and never before here. Only Wojtek Fibak, in a losing cause in Houston in 1976, and John McEnroe, in New York in 1985, had won a set to love in the final.

"That is the best I've played a set in a long, long time," he reflected. Chang, unaccustomed to seeing his service treated with such contempt, committed as many double faults in 27 minutes (the second set was precisely half as long as the first) as he had throughout the tournament.

He resisted in the third, though, until Becker unleashed a timely barrage of aces in the tie-break. "That is the best he's played against me," Chang said. "I have never seen anybody serve that effectively. I don't think I've been aces as many times, not even by Goran [Ivanisevic]."

Becker climbed above Chang to No 4 in the final rankings (points are not awarded for the remaining event, the Grand Slam Cup, in a fortnight) to finish a year which has signalled a resurgence. Even so, he collected only one other title, in Mar-seilles in February.

The runner-up in three events, including Wimbledon, he regretted "playing the wrong guy in the final and on the best surface."

"This is especially satisfying because, when I didn't make it to the ATP finals here two years ago, the whole world wrote me off as being too old."

Becker was 25 at the time. Yet, a month short of his 28th birthday, only one other world champion — Ilie Nastase two decades ago — has been older. The organisers will trust that Germany's favourite son will be in contention again next year. The capacity in Hanover is 15,000, 6,000 larger than the Resthalle.

The signs were good. "I am still keen to be the No 1, the thought and the will is there," Becker said. "But Pete and Andre [Agassi] are preventing that for the moment. I hope to close in next year."

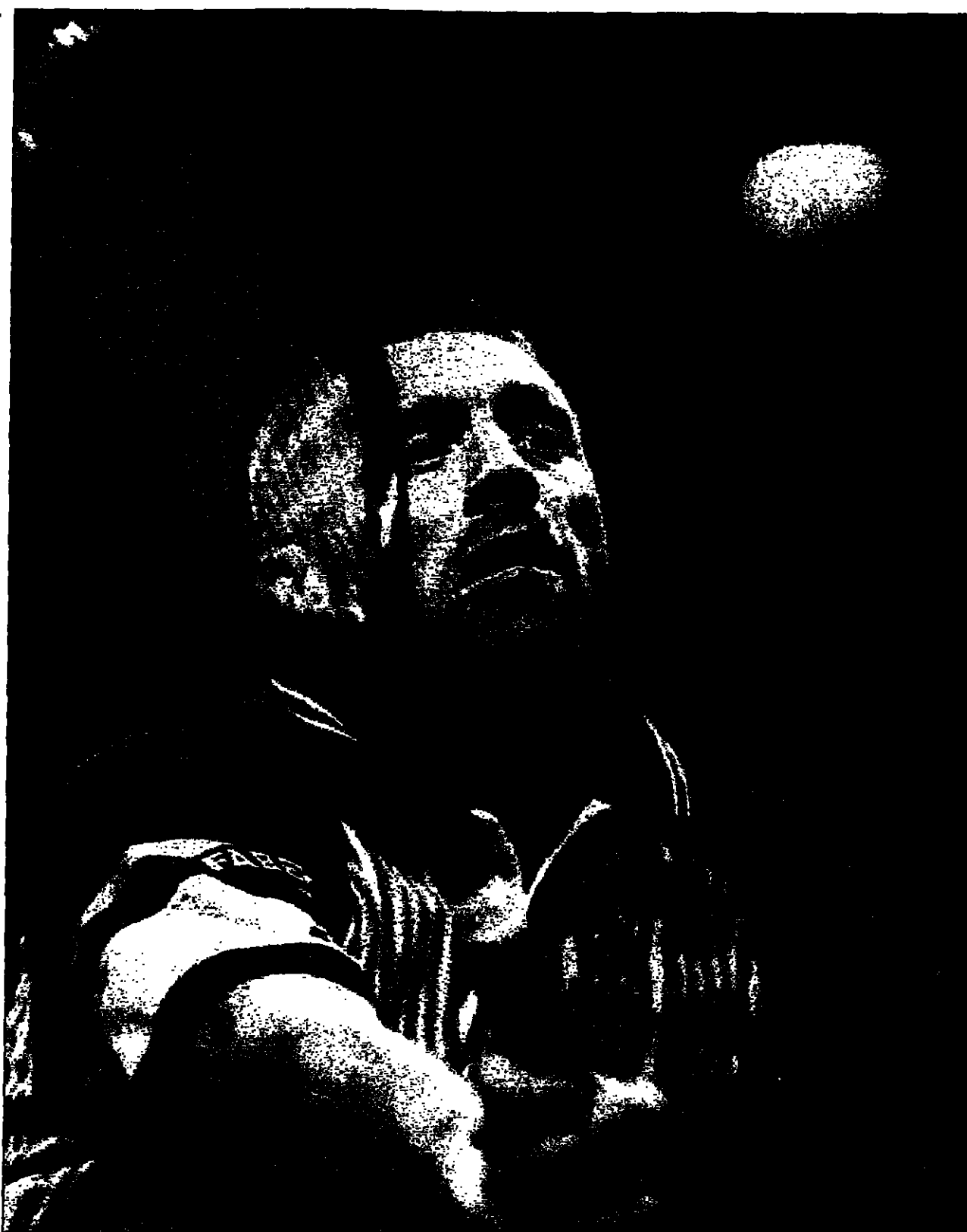
Results 31

Thomas Engvist, the only player to have remained unbeaten during the preliminary stages. By yesterday the German's sense of destiny inside his spiritual home had become irrefragable.

Chang, developing into more than a defensive counter-puncher, had Saturday knocked out the defending champion, Sampras, in straight sets. Sampras, having been assured of retaining his status as the world's No 1, appeared at best to be careless. At worst, he did not seem to care.

Nevertheless, Chang was demonstrably positive and he began the final in a similarly attacking vein. He broke to lead 3-0 but when he served for the first set at 5-3, the balance altered so profoundly that the change was to be irreversible. Becker appreciated the significance of the moment.

Before each of two break points, he trotted to his chair to mop his brow and clear his thoughts. Once he had succeeded in closing the deficit, he



Concentration is etched on Becker's face as he secures a straight-sets victory over Chang in the ATP tour final

Finalists set new mark for Germany

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN NEW YORK

IT IS almost Thanksgiving and the United States is preparing to celebrate the very essence of America. But, back in one of the most revered homes of American sport, Madison Square Garden, the Germans have taken over.

For the first time in the 24-year history of the WTA Tour championships, the Garden will play host to an all-German final as Steffi Graf and Anke Huber do battle. Neither player was particularly troubled in the semi-finals on Saturday as Graf dis-

missed Natasha Zvereva 6-4, 6-3 and Huber defeated Brenda Schultz-McCarthy 6-3, 6-3.

Graf's easy passage was expected. She has only won one service game this week and that when she lost concentration at the start of the second set against Zvereva. More of a surprise was the survival of Huber and Schultz-McCarthy to the latter stages of the competition.

Until recently, Schultz-McCarthy's game was all power and not much variety. Once her opponents had learnt how to get a racket to her serve, winning was easy. But then Graf's coach, Heinz Gunthardt, suggested that she

try a kick serve to add a little spice to her game. So off she went every day with a bucket of balls to try and perfect the delivery.

Transition has not been easy. At first, when the going got tough, she got nervous. Schultz-McCarthy could just as easily launch the ball into orbit as serve an ace, but she stuck with it. Suddenly everything fell into place and, armed with the new shot, she can put opponents on the defensive allowing herself time to get to the net. From that position of power she wastes little time in finishing off the point.

However, living in the rare-

fied atmosphere of the Garden with the best players in the world has been a new and sometimes uncomfortable experience. The higher she climbed — with wins over Maggie Maleeva and Conchita Martinez — the thinner the air became.

By the time she reached the semi-finals, Schultz-McCarthy was in trouble. Obviously nervous, she made too many errors and Huber made the most of it. Still, a place in the semi-finals has made it a profitable week. "You always want to get in the finals and maybe next year it happens," she said. "You can't always have everything you want."

Guildford progress with glut of goals

HARLESTON Magpies made an early show of defiance but were defeated 8-1 by Guildford, whose victory at home yesterday took them into the fourth round of the Hockey Association Cup (Sydney Friskin writes). By half-time, Guildford, the Cup-holders, led 4-1. Jennings gave them the lead after seven minutes. Catchpole equalised but Williams (3), Jennings (2), Hall and Cartmell settled it.

It was plain sailing for the more fancied clubs. Teddington, last year's runners-up, scored ten goals without reply against Dereham and Reading 11 against Bourne-mouth. Old Loughtonians, Southgate, Hounslow, East Grinstead and Cannock all made big scores.

Old Loughtonians took over the leadership of the National League on Saturday with a 4-3 home win over Reading. Osborne failed to convert a penalty stroke in the 69th minute after Carter, Feltham (2) and Lee scored for Old Loughtonians. Klink (2) and Pearn replied for Reading.

Smith inspires Cardiff

ICE HOCKEY: Cardiff Devils, inspired by a hat-trick from their leading scorer, Randy Smith, have consolidated their position at the top of the British League premier division with a 7-3 victory at home to the second-placed team, Durham Wasps. At the other extreme of the table, Newcastle Warriors, under a new coach, Gary Douville, slumped to their eighth straight defeat, 13-4 away to Milton Keynes Kings.

England triumph

BOWLS: England won the inaugural European indoor team championship in Jersey on Saturday. They finished the seven-day event with 57 points, four more than Wales, who were eight clear of Scotland in third. England's singles hope, Jayne Roylance, lost in four sets to Joyce Lindores, of Scotland, but Mary Price's rink beat Jersey 25-15 in the fours to stretch England's winning margin.

Ralf Schumacher wins

MOTOR RACING: Ralf Schumacher, right, of Germany, yesterday followed in elder brother Michael's footsteps by winning the Macau Formula Three grand prix, which was cut short by a 14-car crash. The double world champion won the event in 1990 before moving to Formula One. His 20-year-old brother, who has similar ambitions, started the race in pole position.



Panthers spoil party

BASKETBALL: Displaying all the lack of etiquette associated with unwelcome guests, Doncaster Panthers spoiled the big Tyneside party at the weekend to leave Newcastle Comets still propping up the Budweiser League. Trailing at the end of each of the first three quarters as Comets' first opponents in the Newcastle Arena, Panthers eventually won 86-78 to ruin Comets' day in front of 2,400 spectators.

Ozaki home in style

GOLF: Jumbo Ozaki won the Dunlop Phoenix tournament in Miyazaki, Japan, for the second successive year with an eagle three at the 72nd hole. Ozaki, 48, started the last round trailing two Australians, Peter Senior and Graham Marsh. Going on to the last hole, a par-five of 534 yards, Senior was still one shot ahead of Ozaki, sharing the lead with Robert Gamez and Brandt Jobe, of the United States, at 10 under par.

Campbell champion

GYMNASTICS: Marvin Campbell, of Liverpool Gym Club, scored nine marks out of ten in all six disciplines to win the men's national championships in Nottingham on Saturday. Campbell beat Dominic Brindle, of Leeds, by 0.450 marks, with Craig Heap, of North Tynes, a further 0.450 behind in third place. Lee McDermott, the champion, was forced to withdraw because of an ankle injury.

England find the right formula for team title

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN CAIRO

ENGLAND secured the men's world team squash championship here on Saturday with a 2-1 victory over Pakistan, the defending champions. The success of a hungry group of young professionals, carefully prepared by a new and enthusiastic team manager and a street-wise, ambitious coach, marked a new English formula for international team play and may start an extended period of domination that has been long in the making.

That the title, England's first, was clinched in the deciding, third-string rubber by a relatively unknown player, Mark "Chip" Chaloner, 24, of Lincoln, who beat the more experienced Mir Zaman Gul

9-1, 9-3, 10-9 with 65 minutes of nerveless, error-free squash, merely added to the realisation that the junior squad system first developed by John Barrington and the late Edward Poore in the 1970s has finally come to fruition.

Simon Parke, 23, of Yorkshire, launched a courageous 36-minute, second-game attack on the world champion, Jansher Khan, that will unfortunately be hidden in the scoreline of an hour-long 9-2, 9-5, 9-4 first-string defeat.

Del Harris, of Essex, the former national champion now displaying a mature version of his junior brilliance at the age of 26, swept Zarak Jahan from the Cairo Stadium show court, winning 9-1, 9-2,

9-2 in 42 minutes of astutely applied power shotplay.

The scenes of uninhibited joy that followed Chaloner's victory, after a decade and a half of Pakistani and Australian control of the world team title, had little to do with old-fashioned British phlegm. Rather, they reflected the joy of men whose lives have been dedicated to achieving just such moments, but always with the merest suspicion they might never occur.

"I expected to be nervous," Chaloner said. "But in fact it was just a matter of staying calm and not being excited by the opposition or the crowd. In fact, just doing my job."

Barrington was only involved in the conclusive victory on Saturday by invitation in his new role as president of the Squash Rackets Association. Professionally, he was here coaching the Holland squad.

England were coached by Neil Harvey, a former England captain with a formidable tactical reputation. The team manager was Stuart Courtney, a former England international now equipped with new metal hip joints and relishing his vicarious return to international combat.

"It is so great to be part of a team again," Courtney said. "We planned this win from a long way out and everything went according to the plan."

Harvey added: "We had very good squad sessions in England, then built up momentum at the World Open in Cyprus, with Del reaching the final and Chip doing so well, and kept the motor running throughout the week in Egypt."



Harris stretches for a backhand during his victory over Zarak in the final of the world team championship

Wigan stride away but lack flair

Wigan 44
Workington Town 20

BY A CORRESPONDENT

WIGAN emphasised the gulf in class that exists between top and bottom of rugby league's Stones Championship with another high-scoring performance yesterday. It was a victory achieved without much of the usual flair and style against hard-working opponents, who lacked little in enthusiasm but were short of speed.

The surprise home defeat of Leeds by Sheffield leaves Wigan four points clear at the top.

Sheffield Eagles rocked Leeds, badly missing Garry Schofield, when tries in the last ten minutes by Andy Hay and Anthony Farrell brought them a 27-22 victory in a thrilling Yorkshire Stags Championship derby at Headingley yesterday.

Results and tables, page 31

of the championship with little prospect of being overhauled in the remaining eight matches of the century season.

Jason Robinson, Wigan's elusive winger, capped a fine individual performance with three tries to take his personal tally for the season to 16. Gary Connolly, the centre, reached 100 tries, but the highlight was a spectacular touchdown from Kelvin Skerrett, who received the man-of-the-match award.

Workington, for whom Rowland Phillips, their Welsh forward, worked tirelessly and was well supported by Dean Marwood and Wayne Kitchen, were always struggling from the moment Robinson scored

his first try after nine minutes. It was the result of a splendid 80-yard run by Paul, the full back, who gave the supporting Robinson a clear run to the line. Robinson's second was a solo effort as Workington left him just enough room to squeeze in at the corner.

The Cumbrians have not won at Wigan's Central Park for 17 years. By half-time the game had become another in an alarming list of mis-matches that have plagued the century season as Tuigamala took advantage of a kick from Edwards to score Wigan's fourth try to give the champions a 24-2 lead.

Workington were rewarded for their industry when Phillips created an opening for Kitchen early in the second half.

Connolly's try in the 52nd minute was followed by Skerrett's spectacular effort after a splendid, hard-fought move involving four Wigan attackers.

A fumble by Tuigamala allowed Marwood to run for Workington's second try on 69 minutes but then Robinson took advantage of a break out by Connolly to score in the corner. Paul, who had a splendid day with the boot, kicked his eighth goal from nine attempts. When Jason Palmada scored for Workington near the end it was small consolation.

SCORERS: Wigan: Tris Robinson (3), Edwards, Tuigamala, Connolly, Skerrett, Goals: Paul (8). Workington: Tris: Kitchen, Marwood, Palmada. Goals: Marwood (4). WIGAN: H. Ball, J. Robinson, V. Tuigamala, G. Connolly, K. Skerrett (capt), W. Barrow (63min), S. Edwards, C. Marwood, K. Skerrett, M. Hall, T. O'Connor (subs: P. Johnson, 74), S. O'Brien (subs: N. Cowie, 22), M. Cassidy (subs: M. Knowles, 51), A. Johnson. WORKINGTON: T. Burns (subs: L. Chahon, 19), P. Punter, K. Pappa, V. Punter, D. Fiddess, L. Campbell, W. Kilm, G. Schuler (subs: W. McElroy, 65), D. Marwood, R. Phillips, C. Armstrong, S. Hoggate (subs: J. Palmer, 60), D. Carr. Referee: C. Morris (Huddersfield).



Executive leather collection

For readers who enjoy quality, The Times offers a collection of wallets and diaries, hand-stitched using the finest leathers. All items are available in black, embossed with The Times. Make your selection from the following:

- Executive diaries: the desk diary and its pocket equivalent come in either deep-grain Montana leather or smooth Napoli hide. The diary pages are printed in burgundy and grey type on top quality cream paper with gilt edging, and have perforated corners so you can easily access the current week.
- The diaries have a 13-month week-on-two-pages (12 month in the pocket version), a burgundy ribbon marker, year planner, three-year forward planner, pages for expenses and staff holidays and 16 pages of world maps in colour. They measure 250mm x 210mm and 174mm x 84mm. Prices: Napoli desk £59.00, Napoli pocket £25.00, Montana desk £39.00, and Montana pocket £15.00.
- All accessories are made in high-quality smooth black hide and lined with water-marked moire and blonde pigskin.
- A4 conference folder: two-fold executive case, measuring 315mm x 235mm. Features a leather-edged pocket for an A4 pad, two pen loops, two business card pockets, a large half pocket for loose documents, and a press-stud tab fastener. Price £55.00.
- International travel wallet: stylishly-made and accepts the classic large UK passport as well as all other sizes. Complete with full-width rear pocket for air tickets and other travel documents, a coin purse, four credit card pockets, a zipped pocket for travellers' cheques and receipts, a jotter notes section and pen loop. Measures 187mm x 137mm. Price £49.00.
- Business card organiser: with 16mm silver nickel mechanism, eight alphabet index dividers, 16

removable transparent sleeves for up to 96 cards back-to-back, and a diagonal pocket for loose cards. Measures 200mm x 140mm. Price £31.00.

Credit card wallet: incorporates a removable five-pocket quality pvc credit card section, ID window, and two leather card pockets. Measures 105mm x 75mm. Price £14.00.

The Times Executive Leather Collection

Please send me (enter quantity):

— Napoli Pocket Diary 6 £25.00	— Montana Desk Diary 6 £39.00
— A4 Conference Folder 6 £55.00	— International Travel Wallet 6 £49.00
— Business Card Organiser 6 £55.00	— Credit Card Wallet 6 £14.00

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

I enclose cheque/PO(s) payable to The Times FT505

Value: _____

Please write name and address on back of all cheques or debit my Barclay's Times Visa Account (Visa card no. _____)

Price Name: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send coupon and remittance to: Executive Diary Order, The Times FT505, PO Box 333, Loughton, Essex, SS21 7ZD

Allow 10 days for delivery from receipt of order. This offer is available to UK only. No cash or credit for foreign orders. The Times cannot be responsible for returned goods lost in transit. The offer is subject to availability. Offer ends 31st December 1995. All items are supplied in black for Christmas.

Please tick box if you do not wish to receive future offers from The Times or companies approved by them.

ORDER BY PHONE: 01525 851945

Blackburn produce champion display

Blackburn Rovers 7
Nottingham Forest 0

By IVO TENNANT

IT IS not every manager who, having trounced seemingly unbeatable opponents by a cricket score, has the magnanimity to give the credit to the club's benefactor. Ray Harford is indeed a rare individual, for it is unusual for anybody in football to have any magnanimity at all.

On such a day, Harford was right to deflect the glory. The redeveloped Ewood Park was officially opened before the match, the ribbon-cutting ceremony performed by Jack Walker. He underscored his sentiments in language that was almost Churchillian: "The real work is far from finished. Reaching the top once is not the end but the beginning."

There have been times this season, particularly when Blackburn have played in Europe, when reaching the top seemed to be the beginning of the end. On Saturday, such concerns were dispelled — partially. It would be churlish to voice excessive criticisms now, for any club that beats Nottingham Forest in their present form has to play uncommonly well.

But that is the rub. Blackburn did play uncommonly well. It was a different matter altogether when they came up against Spartak Moscow, Rosenborg BK and Legia Warsaw in the European Cup Champions' League. Why could they not retain possession then as they did here?

One theory has it that they took the first two months of the season to become accustomed to being FA Carling Premiership champions. Another that they were affected far more by Kenny Dalglish's departure from the managerial chair than they would be now if he left the club altogether for another challenge at Molineux.

We forget that although Blackburn are celebrating

their 120th anniversary, they are flibbertigibbets compared with the likes of Wolves — or Nottingham Forest, the one British club still in with a chance in Europe. That is more important than that their 25-match unbeaten record came to an end on Saturday. But it would not be true to say that they surrendered this, nor until they were down to ten men and subsequently conceded four goals.

Pearce and Stone might well have been fatigued by England's match in midweek, but Shearer most assuredly was not. His hat-trick encompassed a full range of skills: a clinical finish, a predatory header, a better of a free kick. His, though, was not the performance of the day. A man-of-the-match award would have gone to Bohinen, whose game has been revitalised since leaving Forest. It was evident that his relationship with them was beyond salvation when he took umbrage that the club balked at paying for his carpets to be taken up because he could not rid himself of their dust.

Now, though, Bohinen is crossing the ball like a winger, dragging it away from defenders like a forward and driving it into goal in the manner of the attacking midfield player that he is. Twice he scored with verve and accuracy.

Newell gained the sixth goal when Crossley failed to gather Shearer's square pass, and Le Saux the seventh in the penultimate minute, a long, swerving shot. Forest by now had only ten men, Chettle having been sent off for two fouls, but that would be a superficial excuse for their failure. They were up against champions who, for once, merited that description.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T. Flowers — J. Kenna, T. Shennard, C. Hendry, G. Le Saux — S. Ripley, H. Berg, L. Bohinen, D. Bates, S. Shearer, M. Newell.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-5-1): M. Crossley — D. Lytle, C. Cooper (sub: D. Phillips, 60min), S. Chettle, S. Pearce — S. Stone, S. Gerrard, A. I. Haslam, C. Bert Williams, I. Wain — J. Lee (sub: A. Slone, 50).

Referee: J. Winter.

Yeboah adds to Chelsea's troubles

Rob Hughes on a 1-0 win for Leeds United from which some big names were notable by their absence

Fair or foul? Saturday afternoon at Elland Road was one of those when a wintry sunshine turns to frostbite, and when one wonders how long it will be before a suffering supporter turns to the Trade Descriptions Act for solace from the game that has become such an industry.

He might, if he had come up from London in support of Chelsea, question the legitimacy of the lone goal, pilfered by Tony Yeboah ten minutes from the end, that the Chelsea players insisted was aided and abetted by a foul on their goalkeeper. But anyone among the 36,209 supporters, 6,000 more than the last Leeds United home game, could have been lured by the modern salesmanship of importing continental superstars. Where was Ruud Gullit? Where was Tomas Brodin? And where, for those who care about these peripheral things, was the promised directors' box confrontation between Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, and Matthew Harding?

Where indeed, a connoisseur might ask, was the sustained quality for which the spectators pay? Where on earth does the term premier enter into things when Leeds, on this desultory performance, can rise three places to fifth in the FA Carling Premiership?

OK, some answers. Gullit was among nine Chelsea senior players absent because even he is flesh and blood, and a calf strain deprived Chelsea of his presence and his catalytic skills. Brodin was at least in the stadium: he pecked out of the players' tunnel, was never introduced to the crowd, and he sat in the directors' box no doubt contemplating that he really has left the A team of Italy's Serie A for something less gifted, and less spectacular than it may have looked to him through the medium of television.

He was not playing because, in this age of direct communications, neither Leeds nor Parma could find a way to exchange registration documents in the time permitted. So Brodin came only to



Yeboah, right, attempts to go past Duberry, of Chelsea, during Leeds United's Premiership victory at Elland Road

look, and rapidly caught a plane back to Italy to collect his belongings. He will return tomorrow.

How soon he will perform is subject to physical condition. He has played only three games for Parma in a year, and Wilkinson suggested it will take 48 hours to assess his fitness. The supporters may feel they had a right to know, long before they were in the stadium, that there was no chance of Brodin's running decorating the pitch, but they paid their money on the off chance, and were disappointed.

The game appeared to lend support to the theory that English football is trying to think along European lines. The teams of Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, and Glenn Hoddle had the framework of 3-5-2, with young Andrew Couzens providing an anchor for Leeds in front of the back three, and with

Michael Duberry, just out of his teens, recalled from loan at Bournemouth to mark a world-class finisher, Yeboah. He did pretty well. Duberry, of course, he lost the elusive Ghanaian from time to time, but with one splendid, calm tackle he prevented a goal, often he shadowed Yeboah expertly and, significantly, it was when Yeboah came up against the Norwegian international, Johnsen, that he found the half-yard of space from which he has proved so deadly.

The first half was deadly in another fashion, deadly dull. Yet still Yeboah dragged the ball away from the bemused Johnsen, only to strike it wide. Chelsea, as Hoddle opined, passed the ball more accurately than Leeds, and around the hour could have won the match. Stein, clear of the offside trap, fumbled with the ball as if it were a moving gel. Petrescu produced the pass of

the match, but Burley, one on one with the goalkeeper, allowed Lukic to dominate. Yeboah had gone eight games without scoring, when he turned Johnson, but only struck the base of a post, it seemed he would be denied again. Then, in the eightieth minute, Kelly broke free on the right, made the most of Newton's loose marking and scooped the ball into the air.

Kharine collided with Deane, the tall Leeds forward won the ball in the air and Yeboah, quick as a lizard, poached the goal from six yards. Kharine and, of course, Wise remonstrated at the final whistle with the referee, Mike Reed. They claimed, and Hoddle backed them, that Deane had impeded Kharine. You could look at the video a dozen times and argue that, while Deane did jump early with his arm above his head, perhaps it

was Kharine who bundled into the forward. But Chelsea have internal problems which, though Hoddle insists they are not affecting morale or purpose, can do nothing for the club. Bates had asked other clubs to ban Harding from their directors' boxes and lounges. Leeds declined to do that; Harding was there. Bates was absent and one wonders what kind of unity it is that allows Harding to divulge after another defeat that Chelsea were, a few weeks ago, interested in hiring Paul Gascoigne on a three-month loan. Harding, the director who has put millions into the club, could not say now whether that is still Chelsea's aim or not.

LEEDS UNITED (3-5-2): J. Lukic — G. Kelly, D. Whelan, R. Johnson — C. Palmer, G. Hoddle, A. Couzens, M. Duberry, 72min, G. Speed, A. Dougo — B. Deane, A. Yeboah.
CHELSEA (3-5-2): D. Kharine — M. Duberry, D. Lee, E. Johnson (sub: P. Furlong, 88) — D. Petrescu, C. Burley, D. Wise, E. Newton, G. Hall — M. Hughes, M. Stein.
Referee: M. Ford.

Tottenham recover to snuff out Arsenal's fluent start

Tottenham Hotspur 2
Arsenal 1

By KEITH PIKE

NOSTALGIA is not what it used to be, they say, but with The Beatles coming together again, tank-tops back in the high street and hooliganism rearing its ugly head, the Sixties are very much in fashion. For an hour on Saturday, Tottenham Hotspur caught the mood to perfection.

Like their illustrious predecessors, Tottenham had fizz on the flanks, a steel spine and a cutting edge: Fox provided the cunning on the right, Howells and Mabbutt were immovable through the middle, and a goal apiece from Sheringham and Armstrong gave a vibrant White Hart Lane the victory it prizes most. "I am not one for targets, but we have been touted as a relegation side and, hopefully, we can stay up," Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, said, delivering a snarling sideswipe at his detractors.

His team's second-half performance was as entertaining as it was effective. Most probably, though, it was a glimpse of the past, no more. Tottenham are consistent only in their inconsistency, and the championship remains a distant dream. The abiding memory from this match will be Arsenal's mesmerising football of the opening 30 minutes.

Not since Liam Brady's bunch regularly turned them over on their own patch can Tottenham have been so tormented: a dozen uninterrupted passes by Arsenal here, a dozen more there, the ball switching from flank to flank, from front to back and forwards again. Teased and toyed with, Tottenham were often so surprised to get possession that they promptly

Full results and league tables Page 28

gave the ball back again. It could not last.

The half-time interval gave Tottenham time to regroup, an old injury caught up with Platt and a new one afflicted Helder. Bergkamp was booked and becalmed, and Merson lost his way, too. But to have seen Arsenal pass the ball so instinctively, so accurately — even Keown preferred the sledgehammer to the sledgehammer — was to witness the George Graham legacy evaporate and the Bruce Rioch revolution gather pace. If he can blend the meanest defence in the FA Carling Premiership with such ability further forward, and sustain the mix for an entire match and then a season, Rioch could be on the verge of something special.

Unfortunately for him, the Arsenal defence was not at its best. "That opening spell was the most evident plus-point. We were making ourselves a lot of time and space," Rioch said. "But to concede two goals in the way we have is very unlike us."

Bergkamp had crowned Arsenal's period of ascendancy with his eighth goal in nine matches, arriving unchallenged to meet Merson's perceptive cross, but they could not contain Tottenham, and Sheringham in particular. He scored the equaliser when, having made a fine defensive header at an Arsenal corner, he ran the length of the field to get on the end of Fox's cross. He also played a vital part in the winning goal, hit by the improving Armstrong, his fourth in five games.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): Walker — D. Austin, C. Caldwell, G. Mabbutt, S. Campbell — R. Fox, D. Coates, D. Howells, R. Howells (sub: G. Mabbutt, 87min) — E. Sheringham, C. Armstrong.
ARSENAL (4-4-2): D. Seaman — L. Dixon, S. Boddie, A. Adams, N. Winterburn — P. Merson, D. Platt, M. Keown, G. Helder (sub: D. Higgs, 70) — D. Bergkamp, J. Harrison.
Referee: A. Widd.

Ferdinand's flash finish

Aston Villa 1
Newcastle United 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

KASH "The Flash" Gill, world kick-boxing championship contender, gave an entertaining exhibition of his sport during half-time at Villa Park on Saturday. Birmingham's finest, ahead of his title eliminator against Michele Araldi, of Italy, next weekend, at least kept warm on a fresh Midlands afternoon. The punches were pulled and the wild blows with feet hardly hurt his sparring partner; it was no more than a teasing glimpse of what true damage Gill could inflict in a serious bout.

It had been the same before, and was the same thereafter, in the FA Carling Premiership. Aston Villa, the pretenders in sixth place, had taken a 22nd-minute lead and appeared capable of going on to greater deeds. Newcastle United, the leaders by eight points, had equalised in the 58th minute, rediscovered their stature and engaged in a hell-bent mission to secure their twelfth league victory of the season.

Yet, like Gill's posing, it was no more than an apparition. Enjoyable on the eye, engrossing for the 39,167 spectators and entirely honourable from the players, but lacking an indeterminate something

that prevented it from attaining unforgettable status. Too many incisive moves fumbled at the crucial point.

"Two things worried me during the interval," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said. "The way Villa were playing and the way we weren't. We were asked some serious questions and didn't have any answers. Half-time couldn't come quick enough



Ferdinand: on target

for us." Brian Little, equally graying of hair, was equally philosophical. "Once they scored, it was hard work and we began to scramble a bit," he said. "We tired towards the end but it will have done us a lot of good to have played so well against a very good side."

That is how Premiership possibilities now measure themselves, such is Newcastle's standing these days. Starring

in November last year, a sequence of only one win in 11 outings — much of it influenced by injuries — dragged the Toon Army back down to reality. Fear not a repetition: Keegan's elite troops are now stronger.

Villa's early vigour earned its reward, when Draper busied numerous challengers before chipping into the middle for Johnson to head past Hislop off a post — despite Peacock's vain attempt at preventing the ball from crossing the line.

A frank exchange of views between Keegan and his cohorts at half-time elicited a swift response. Surprisingly, it came via route one. Hislop's huge clearance left Elighu in three minutes, giving Ferdinand the minuscule opening that he required to guide in his seventeenth goal of the season.

Came on, the Villa Park through thought. And yet it meandered towards a satisfactory rather than stirring climax. Newcastle battering and flustering as Villa contained and then countered. A joust which, like that from Kash The Flash, promised much more than it ultimately delivered.

ASTON VILLA (3-4-3): M. Bostich — U. Elighu, P. McGrath, G. Southgate — G. Chalmers, M. Draper, J. Taylor, A. Wright — J. Johnson, D. York, S. Milosavljevic.
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): S. Hislop — W. Barton, D. Patterson, S. Howey, J. Beardsley — K. Gillespie, R. Lee, S. Watson (sub: L. Clark, 45min), D. Givoni — P. Beardsley, L. Ferdinand (sub: P. Abbott, 92).
Referee: S. Lodge.

United brush Southampton aside

Manchester United 4
Southampton 1

By ALYSON RUDD

THERE are two kinds of bully: the big-boned, flabby-checked, inarticulate variety, and the more angular, good-looking, sarcastic ones who can induce a panic attack just by raising an eyebrow. For the first nine minutes of this match, Manchester United were a prime example of the latter.

They treated Southampton with contempt, scoring three goals and striking the bar before the visitors had time to dream up the excuse that they had not heard the whistle for the kick-off.

"Football is a situation where you go out and battle," Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, said, cryptically. But this was no battle, it was a board game, a round of Scrabble in which

United held all the high-scoring letters and the wit to utilise them. Without the suspended Le Tissier, Southampton had a pretty limited vocabulary.

Only a fool would dismiss United's chances of claiming their third FA Carling Premiership title in four years. Cantona is not quite back to full throttle, but there is time yet for the Frenchman to be more of a direct menace inside the 18-yard box, while Giggs and Scholes are in such excellent form.

Giggs scored twice, his first goal, after 16 seconds, set up by Cantona, his second, after four minutes, all his own work after dispossessing Hall. He said that he is enjoying extra training and less playing, and it shows. If United have a weakness it is that Cole trails marginally in the collective train of thought.

His team-mates, particularly Cantona, encourage him, but if you have to be told where to pass the ball, it deadens the momentum of the attack. Cole eventually

scored, though, a rare header from Beckham's corner after 68 minutes.

Towards the end of last season, United put nine goals past Ipswich Town and Alex Ferguson praised them for improving their goal difference as their nuzzle, with Blackburn Rovers for the FA Carling Premiership grew more difficult to call. Now, Ferguson was more concerned about his players' energy and fitness, replacing Irwin and Giggs when to leave them on might have yielded more goals. In the second half, Ferguson's side was faintly uninterested. Such restraint might stand United in good stead when they face Newcastle United at Christmas. Recent champions know how to pace themselves.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-3-3): P. Schmeichel — N. Boddie, S. Bruce, G. Patterson, D. Irwin (sub: P. Neville, 60min) — D. Beckham, M. B. B. R. Giggs (sub: L. Sharpe, 67) — E. Cantona, P. Scholes (sub: S. M. Wright, 88).
SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D. Beasant — J. Dodd, R. Hall, K. McManis, A. Bavel — D. Hughes, T. Whittington, J. Magilton, N. Heaney (sub: F. Barnett, 58) — N. Shepperson, G. Watson.
Referee: P. Danson.

Attention:
Managers of the
bottom three
clubs. Our latest
mortgage deal
protects your
home even if you
lose your job.*

For more information call 0800 400 999.

NatWest
More than just a bank

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Credit is only available to persons aged 18 and over and is subject to status and conditions. Mortgage loans are available from National Westminster Home Loans Limited, 41 Leithway, London EC2P 2BP. Security and insurance are required. Written quotations are available on request from National Westminster Bank Plc, 41 Leithway, London EC2P 2BP, or from any branch. Mortgage Repayments Protection Insurance has been specially negotiated and arranged through National Westminster Insurance Services Limited with Sun Alliance Insurance UK Limited and is only available to customers taking a new mortgage through National Westminster Home Loans Limited. Mortgages without this insurance are also available. To be eligible to claim Mortgage Repayments Protection you must be away from work because of sickness, accident or involuntary unemployment for more than 30 days in a row. Payments will continue for each 30 day period that you are away from work, up to a maximum of 12 months and subject to the policy terms and conditions which are set out in the policy document. A specimen policy is available from National Westminster Insurance Services Limited, PO Box 104, 37 Broad Street, Bristol BS99 7ND. *Your car will be covered by National Westminster Bank Plc. A specimen policy is available from National Westminster Insurance Services Limited, PO Box 104, 37 Broad Street, Bristol BS99 7ND. Lanes are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm, weekends 10am to 4pm. National Westminster Bank Plc is a Member of the NatWest UK and NatWest UK Trust Marketing Group, and can advise on the life assurance, pensions and unit products only of that Marketing Group, and is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IFAHQ, National Westminster Bank Plc. Registered Number 520227 England. Registered Office, 41 Leithway, London EC2P 2BP. Ref. No. 88294

سكرا من الاصل

Brazilian passes test of nerve in encounter with Wimbledon's Crazy Gang

Juninho learns to keep up with the Joneses

Andrew Longmore
sees Middlesbrough
leave town with body
and goal intact

He juggled the ball on head and nape during breaks in play, struck a thunderous volley from 30 yards just over the bar and, with Brazilian flair, essayed the neatest of back-heels mid-way through the second half. He tackled like a demon, too. Clearly tougher than he looks, that Vinícius Jones. And the little chap was quite good, too. What was his name? Juninho. Brazilian for Jones, is it?

The much-billed clash of cultures — Jones v Juninho, Watford v São Paulo, beast and beauty, the play within the play — never quite materialised in the 0-0 stalemate at Selhurst Park on Saturday. It was more a case of passing ships than colliding satellites as Juninho operated on the left side of the Middlesbrough attack, just behind Fjorotf, and Jones did his Superman impression in the Wimbledon midfield.

The sight of Jones's gap-toothed grimace, prompted by the Brazilian's third outrageous dive of the afternoon, might haunt dreams of home for a few nights. Wisely, Juninho kept back from one two-footed Jones special. But the pair left the field together at the end, boyish heads tucked into the crook of manly arm like a Mafia godfather congratulating a particularly talented hit-man. Juninho seemed to appreciate the gesture, anyway, just as Wimbledon's hard-pressed accountants appreciated the extra 5,000 on the gate.

Otherwise, in his third game for Middlesbrough, the £4.75 million Brazilian was nicely ornamental rather than structurally essential to an FA Carling Premiership match that neither grabbed every attention nor forfeited all interest. One turn inside Cunningham in the second half, a quick look, a flick and away, promised more, but the shot was blocked by a flying dark blue body. At times, bored



Juninho goes where others sometimes fear to tread, shaping to tackle Jones during the goalless draw at Selhurst Park on Saturday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

with life on the left, he slipped back deep to exert greater influence, and Middlesbrough, unlike Chelsea when Gullit goes walkabout, have a solid enough framework to cope with the bouts of wanderlust.

Juninho's contribution at the business end of the field was disappointing — a volley just wide, a couple of other near misses — and his corners were much less effective than Jones's long throws. Presumably, corners are not considered proper currency in the land of golden free kicks. One even dribbled into the side

netting, schoolboy fashion. But, on one of those cold, humdrum, afternoons which promised to test the will and explore the hype, the Brazilian's head and shoulders stayed impressively high.

"He just wants to play football," Viv Anderson, the Middlesbrough assistant manager, said. "He's like Nicky Barmby in that way. If training is at 10.30, Nicky will be out with a ball at 10.15. Juninho is the same. On a day off, he wants to be in. He runs for fun and our lads can learn a lot from his enthusiasm." Jaime Moreno, in particular,

has welcomed Juninho's arrival. The Bolivian is now assured of a place in the first team squad, as chief interpreter.

These are still early days, lived in a hotel and a vacuum of language. Juninho has English lessons for two hours every day and, with luck, will be moving into a house and driving his own car by the end of the week. His ability, though, has been communicated in a language his teammates understand. At a five-a-side last week, played out in front of Juninho's parents, who watch their son train

every day, nobody could get the ball off him. "He was different class," Anderson said. "He does all the right things, doesn't give the ball away. Give him another month and he'll be ready."

Juninho apart, the player who caught most neutral eyes was Philip Stamp, a blond workhorse in the Middlesbrough midfield, who has emerged from the ranks of the apprentices with a combative nature and a confident manner. He did not turn a hair at the aggressive attentions of Jones, did his chores in midfield, and found time to get

into good positions in the penalty area. Heald had to beat away his shot from 20 yards midway through the second half, probably the save of the match. Stamp is 19. Alongside him, Craig Liddle is 22, the same age as Juninho. Pollock is 21. Middlesbrough are building impressively.

They were never in much danger of losing the game, and had decided 20 minutes from time to conserve a point. After seven games without one, any point would have done for Wimbledon, so the final stages were more like shadow boxing. Gayle blasted a good

chance over, Elkins was booked for clattering Juninho. "I told my players not to get involved with him," Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said. "He's very light, very skilful, but if you touch these people, they go over." After surviving his first bout of snow on Teesside and his first brush with Jones, all in one week, Juninho has little else to fear from the English game.

WIMBLEDON (4-3-3): F Heald — V Cunningham, A Thom, C Perry, G Eddowes — D Leighton, V Jones, R Earle — J Egan, D Hollisworth, E Shoku (sub: M Gayle, Tamm). MIDDLESBROUGH (4-4-2-1): G Walsby — S Vickers, N Pearson, C Morris — N Co, P Stamp, C Liddle, J Pollock — J Juninho. Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd)

Weir seeks lucrative return after disputed stoppage

By SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

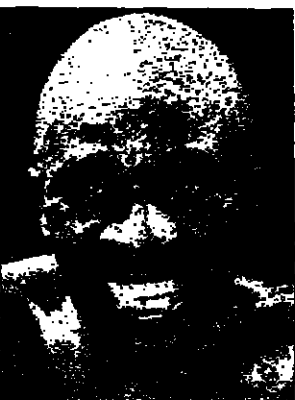
IF PAUL WEIR went home to Irvine on Saturday night nursing an "I was robbed" grievance and a cut eye after losing his World Boxing Organization light-flyweight title to Jake Matlala, of South Africa, in Glasgow, he should at least console himself with the thought that the referee, Wiso Fernandez, far from being the villain of the piece, did him a favour.

Thanks to the controversial ending of the bout by Fernandez after Weir had received a cut above his right eye in the fifth round, the Scot was not only saved from being knocked out in that round but also given an excellent chance of a lucrative rematch at Ellis Park, Johannesburg, where an attendance of 40,000 might be expected.

While the crowd of 3,000 at Kelvin Hall waited for the judges to consult their scorecards to see who was leading at the time of the stoppage, Barry Hearn, the joint promoter of the bout with Tommy Gilmour, said: "I think the referee misunderstood the doctor. Language difficulties. We will be protesting at the WBO convention in Las Vegas in ten days' time. I'm sure we'll get a rematch."

Hearn hopes to put Weir in for the rematch as quickly as possible, in January or February, in case Melchor Castro, the tough Mexican mandatory challenger, relieves Matlala of the title. "I would rather go to Ellis Park. Good business for everybody. Double money."

Weir said he was waiting for



Matlala: showed strength

Matlala, 33, to fire in the later rounds as a result of having to come down to light-flyweight, from flyweight. But the "old" man, all 4ft 10in of him, far from slowing down, was getting stronger. Having won three of the four rounds and floored Weir in the fifth, he was in the process of putting the finishing touches to his night's work when Weir's eye was cut in an accidental clash of heads.

Fernandez stopped the bout and asked Dr Camron Bracken to examine the injury. The doctor said the bout could continue but Fernandez decided to call a halt. That he did not heed the doctor's advice gave the impression that Fernandez might have decided to be cautious because of James Murray's death in Glasgow last month.

Gerry Woolard, the WBO supervisor who is also the British Boxing Board of Control's Scottish Area secretary, said: "No problem with language. The referee asked what round it was. I told him. He said 'I'm stopping the fight'. It was his decision. He might have thought he [Weir] was way behind."

Later, however, Fernandez said he had misunderstood the doctor and said he would recommend a rematch. □ Pernell Whitaker retained his World Boxing Council welterweight title by knocking out Jake Rodriguez in Atlantic City early yesterday.

Wembley offers only empty promises

Simon Wilde on the poor fare served up to spectators who lent England their support in the match with Switzerland

Go to Wembley and watch football. What a treat Wembley: the stage on which every player wants to perform, the place every spectator wants to visit. If they sing songs about getting there ("We're on our way to Wem-ber-ley"), it must be difficult to accomplish and rewarding once you have got there, must it not?

Well no, actually. Not if you go to watch an England midweek international, such as the friendly with Switzerland last Wednesday, which was attended by fewer than 30,000. It was a feat surprisingly easy to accomplish and, as to being worth it, it all depended on how generous you wanted to be with your money and what you thought constituted 90 minutes of entertainment.

First things first. There was no need to waste time and money booking a ticket in advance by telephone. That cost you an extra £1.50 and 20 minutes queuing to pick up the reserved ticket outside a Portakabin under Wembley Way, where it was as dark, damp and intimidating as a scene from *Blade Runner*. Much better to have bought the ticket (in this case, at £26, for a seat near the halfway line) on the gate. But then it always has been easy to be wise after the event.

On the way into the stadium

came a reminder of the reason for going, a slogan that proclaimed: "Wembley — where else?" For many people there is nowhere else for football's showpieces to be staged and the ongoing deliberations about the site for the new national sports stadium may be about to confirm such prejudices.

Inside, the case was less impressive. The stadium was about a quarter full and looked rather forlorn. While it was obvious that Switzerland were not the greatest of draw cards, England ought to have been their own attraction, Gascoigne, Shearer *et al*.

It took a subsequent telephone call to the Football Supporters' Association to discover the real reason for the poor attendance. For geographic reasons, Wembley is not a favourite venue of many seasoned football-goers in the Midlands and the North in midweek, when arranging transport home is a prime consideration.

So why is the Football Association not more imaginative about where it schedules England matches and the prices it charges? Why has it signed a contract with Wem-

bley that keeps every meaningful home international — outside the European championship — at Wembley until at least 2002?

While many seats were empty on Wednesday, and people moved around freely in an attempt to find better views, many offered no improvement. They were uniformly too low, a legacy of the terraces being originally designed, 70 years ago, for standing spectators. In some quarters, too, views are restricted by pillars.

If Wembley is chosen as the new national stadium and

rebuild, these problems will disappear — as, one hopes, will the refreshment famine. The range of food and drinks available along the walkways inside and outside the stadium is as uniformly unexceptional at Wembley as at many — though not all — Premier League grounds, and more expensive. The range, and speed of service, needs improvement and a restaurant or two would indeed be a treat. Earlier this month, Tony Banks, the Labour MP, charged Wembley plc with being incapable of running a wheel stall. Frankly, even a

badly run wheel stall would have been a welcome sight.

For a long time, what happened on the pitch was of no comfort at all to the home supporters. England were ghastly in the first half. The Swiss looked dangerous on the break and, but for a reflex save by Seaman, would have taken an early lead. Shortly before half-time, they scored first anyway. England's prompt equaliser owed much to a fierce deflection.

England gave an improved performance after the interval and won 3-1, providing the crowd, whose frustration had earlier been apparent, with much to cheer. Towards the end, sure of victory, they hurled some good-humoured abuse at the opposition, about their talents being limited to cuckoo clocks and cheese with holes in.

Afterwards, Wembley exhibited its great strength, its transport infrastructure. The large crowd that congregated outside Wembley Park underground station was dispersed rapidly and a door-to-door journey to Clapham was completed in 90 minutes, just allowing time for the discovery on television that England had been made second-favourites behind Italy to win the European championship next year. Now who is it that lives in the land of cuckoos?

Macclesfield add to Altrincham's woes

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

MACCLESFIELD Town swept aside Altrincham 4-0 in the Cheshire derby at Moss Lane on Saturday to continue to set the pace at the top of the Vauxhall Conference. Working, who have three matches in hand, won 3-2 away to Slough Town to stay in second place, six points behind, and Kidderminster Harriers regained third position by rediscovering their form in a 4-1 win over Runcorn at Aggborough.

Altrincham have not had a happy fortnight. They lost out on a fee from *Match of the Day* when their FA Cup first-round tie against Crewe Alexandra was postponed because their Endsleigh Insurance League opponents supplied players to Wales and Northern Ireland for the midweek international programme.

They then found Ryan Price, the former Stafford Rangers goalkeeper on loan from Birmingham City, in an inmovable form on Saturday, while, inspired by Tony Hemmings, their recent acquisition from Wycombe Wanderers, Macclesfield cracked in four goals, two apiece for Coates and Lyons. The Crewe match goes ahead on Wednesday, with a 3,000 all-ticket limit. Working won their seventh

Conference match in succession in a frantic encounter against Slough, with Walker twice on the mark from the penalty spot. Their other scorer was Steele, who was later sent off. His second bookable offence, kicking the ball away, was made unpardonable by its disappearance out of Wexham Park.

There were three sendings-off at the International Stadium, where Gateshead were held 1-1 by Kettering Town. Troit, of Gateshead, and Pope, of Kettering, went in the sixtieth minute, and Wrightson, of Gateshead, followed in the eightieth as a match that had promised much — with Ord cancelling out Alford's goal for the visitors in a furious opening — fizzled out. Colin Richardson, the Gateshead manager, said: "The referee booked ten players when there wasn't a bad tackle in the match. We've worked hard to improve our disciplinary record, but now we feel butchered."

May put away two confidence-boosting lap-ins as Kidderminster saw off Runcorn to remain unbeaten at home. Hughes and Davies, taking his tally to 171 — one behind Mark Carter's Conference record — scored the other goals.

WHAT IT COSTS	
<p>Adults £27.50 (including £1.50 booking fee)</p> <p>Children £12.50 (including £1.50 booking fee)</p> <p>Programme £4</p>	<p>Adults £28.10</p> <p>Children £12.50 (including £1.50 booking fee)</p> <p>Programme £4</p>

OK

RYAN The first and still the best.

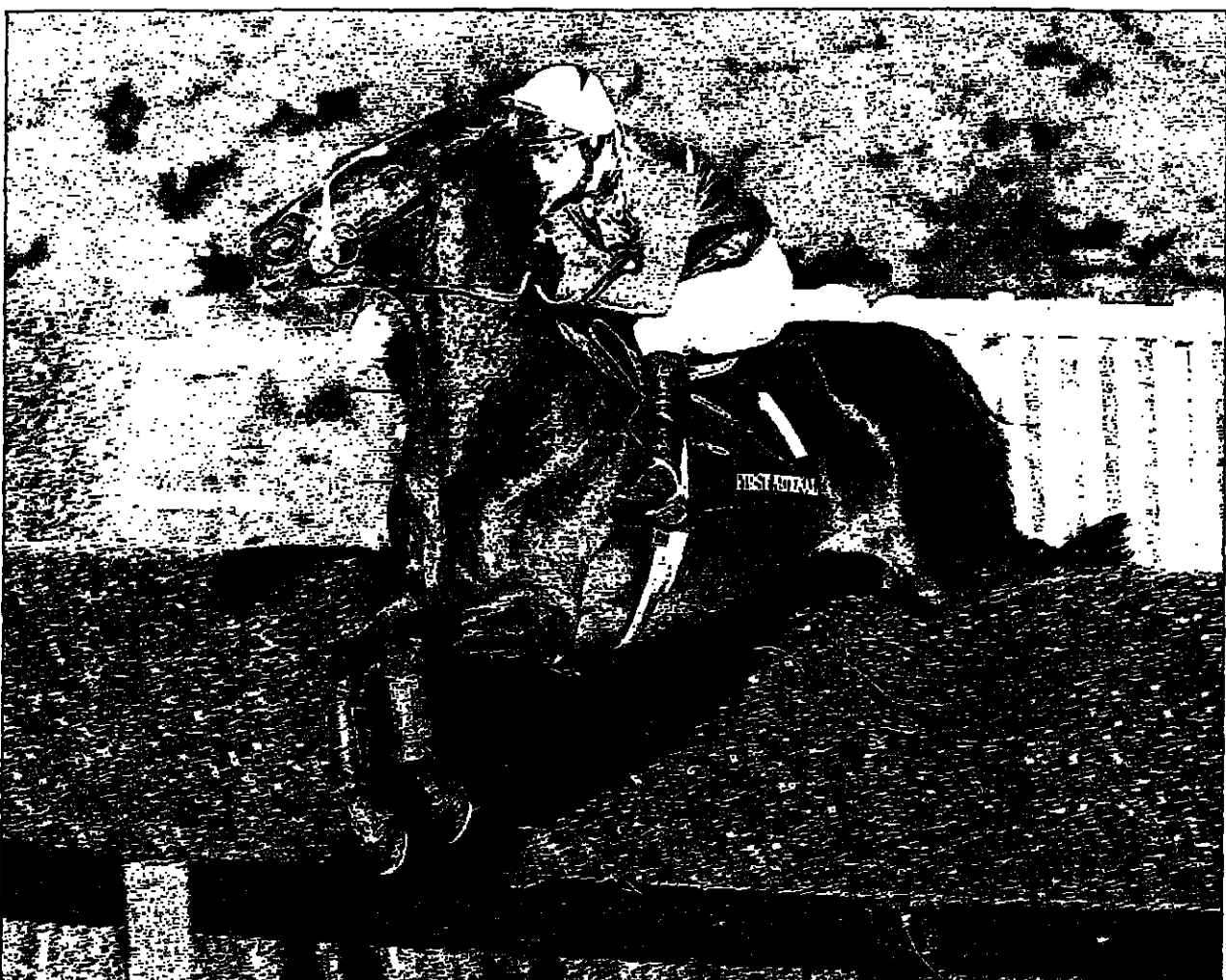
Young Hustler aims at Hennessy

By JULIAN MUSCAT

YOUNG HUSTLER is to carry a 4lb penalty in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury on Saturday after his spell-binding performance in the Crowther Hones Beecher Chase over the Grand National course at Aintree.

In defying 12 stone, the eight-year-old treated the field with a round reminiscent of celebrated Aintree specialists.

Chris Maude, deputising for the injured Carl Llewellyn, made all the running and went clear after the last fence as Young Hustler gave 28lb to his nine opponents over three miles and three furlongs. Even at this early stage racegoers will struggle to see a better Grand National trial: Coral promoted Young Hustler to



Sound Man jumps the last clear in the First National Bank Chase at Ascot on Saturday. Photograph: Ed Byrne

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: KADIRI (2.50 Southwell)
Next best: Lady Silk (1.50 Southwell)

14-1 favourite from 25-1, while Ladbrokes halved the chestnut's big-race odds to 20-1.

Two previous attempts at the National have left his trainer, Nigel Twiston-Davies, cursing the fates. Young Hustler was brought down at the thirteenth fence last year and unseated Llewellyn after hitting the third fence in April.

Saturday's victory saw the horse achieve what connections fully expected of him on his earlier visits to Aintree.

Like the ultimate Aintree specialist, Red Rum, Young Hustler is a sprinter in import. That greatly concerned Peter Scudamore, the former champion jockey now assistant to the Twiston-Davies stable. "When I first rode the horse I was worried about him staying two miles," Scudamore said yesterday.

"He then won seven races in a row and has never looked back."

Young Hustler, who must have good ground, is one of three possible Hennessy runners for Twiston-Davies.

Earth Summit is unlikely to run unless the ground eases. Grange Brake completes the trio. Should each horse make the race, the stable expects to have three regular jockeys to ride them. In addition to Maude, Llewellyn plans a comeback from injury tomorrow, while Tom Jenks, Llewellyn's understudy, returns from suspension the following day.

Like Earth Summit, Jodami, allotted top weight of 11st 13lb, is unlikely to run on a fast surface. His trainer, Peter Beaumont, said yesterday: "I am keen to go to Newbury but there is a £15,000 race at Kelso two days later."

Beaumont is not confident of avenging Jodami's recent Ayr defeat by the Hennessy favourite, One Man. "We oppose on 4lb better terms but we cannot really expect to turn the tables," he said.

Connections of Coudnt Be Better, one of two Charlie Brooks-trained Hennessy candidates, are seeking a replacement for Adrian Maguire,

injured in a three-horse pile-up at Ascot on Friday. Maguire is expected to be out of action for up to four weeks with a leg injury. His agent, Dave Roberts, said of the jockey: "He has cracked a bone just above his ankle and is likely to be off for between three and four weeks."

David Nicholson, who retains Maguire's services, plans to fill the breach by using Jenny Pimman's stable jockey, Warren Marston. To further complicate matters, Nicholson's conditional jockey, Richard Johnson, will be out for up to two weeks after chipping a bone in his shoulder after a fall at Towcester on Saturday.

Sound Man was presented with the First National Bank Gold Cup at Ascot when Moore, his only threat, crashed out of the race five furlongs from the finish. However, Edward O'Grady, who trains Sound Man in Ireland, said Moore's fall meant he didn't learn as much about his horse as he had hoped for.

"The King George VI Chase over three miles is uncharted territory so we won't make up our minds just yet. There's always the Castelford Chase over two miles at Wetherby," O'Grady said.

Eloquent testimony does justice to Cartier awards

Sean Coughlan, whose first words betray his Irish origins, spent much of the summer amusing allcomers at the Curragh, Royal Ascot, Longchamp and Belmont Park.

We thought we had heard it all of his days as a bus conductor, his life in the building trade, his racing silks mirroring the Papal colours and his ferrying "Holy Water" from Lourdes to New York, where his beloved Ridgewood Pearl was stabled prior to her Breeders' Cup Mile victory.

Mr Coughlan was undoubtedly born to tell a tale. Yet words initially escaped him when he received the Cartier Horse of the Year Award at the annual dinner in London last week. Words positively tripped off his tongue all season; now they served to trip him up. "I should have prepared something," Coughlan mumbled. "I thought Lammtarra was a certainty for the award so I never bothered."

He should be glad that he didn't. What followed was the most eloquent testimony to the joys of racehorse ownership. The golden rule for victory speeches—which, more often than not, are as dull as the water in Becher's Brook—is to keep them short and sweet. Coughlan, however, broke all the rules, as did Ridgewood Pearl in a

stunning season of four group one successes in many different countries. Coughlan could have doubled the ten-minute oratory and still left his audience wanting more.

For that, and many other reasons, it was uplifting to attend an awards dinner that is rapidly gaining in momentum. As with the many factions to make harmony in racing an elusive target, so it is with the plethora of

diverse as Cartier's. It embraces the sentiments of the racing public, the horse's actual performance and its overall assessment by a panel of racing journalists. If there is a weakness, it exists, as to relate, in the last category. Some journalists saw fit to challenge Ridgewood Pearl's status as Horse of the Year in the light of Lammtarra's achievements. Yet they had loudly heeded the decision to retire Lammtarra after just four starts.

Given that a regular racing itinerary is crucial in two of the three Cartier categories, Ridgewood's Pearl's triumph over Lammtarra was not surprising. If, as some have suggested, any snub was delivered, it came exclusively from the racing public, which even voted for Bahri's consistency ahead of the fleetly-seen Lammtarra.

Racing should recognise the high premium placed by the public on the regular appearance of star performers. The message is clear: horses must be thoroughly tested if the public's interest is to be maintained. The Cartier awards are not allied exclusively to a racehorse's ability. In nine out of ten instances the most charismatic horse will be the best. Occasionally, however, that is not the case. The Cartier awards are all the better for acknowledging that fact.

JULIAN MUSCAT



Racing commentary

awards distributed over the festive season. Cartier now hands out its awards when the Flat season's embers are still glowing. And a measure of their status is that Lammtarra's owner, Saeed Maktoum Al-Maktoum, was on hand to collect the award for his champion three-year-old colt.

Furthermore, no other awards are decided on a tripartite voting system as

CATTERICK

12.40 Bold Amusement, 1.10 Corston Rambo, 1.40 Cabralter, 2.10 Sonny-P, 2.40 MASTER OF THE ROCK (nap), 3.10 Hurricane Blake, 3.40 Direct Route.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.10 The Minister.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES)

12.40 HALIFAX NOVICES HURDLE (2.7.30, 2m) (21 runners)

13 NODDUS 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
14 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
15 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
16 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
17 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
18 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
19 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
20 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
21 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
22 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
23 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
24 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
25 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
26 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
27 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
28 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
29 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
30 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
31 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
32 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
33 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
34 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
35 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
36 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
37 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
38 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
39 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
40 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
41 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
42 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
43 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
44 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
45 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
46 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
47 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
48 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
49 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
50 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
51 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
52 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
53 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
54 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
55 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
56 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
57 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
58 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
59 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
60 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
61 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
62 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
63 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
64 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
65 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
66 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
67 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
68 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
69 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
70 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
71 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
72 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
73 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
74 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
75 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
76 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
77 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
78 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
79 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
80 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
81 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
82 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
83 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
84 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
85 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
86 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
87 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
88 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
89 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
90 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
91 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
92 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
93 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
94 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
95 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
96 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
97 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
98 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
99 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
100 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
101 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
102 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
103 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
104 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
105 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
106 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
107 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
108 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
109 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
110 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
111 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
112 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
113 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
114 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
115 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
116 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
117 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
118 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
119 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
120 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
121 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
122 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
123 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
124 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
125 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
126 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
127 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
128 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
129 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
130 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
131 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
132 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
133 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
134 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
135 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
136 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
137 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
138 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
139 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
140 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
141 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
142 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
143 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
144 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
145 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
146 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
147 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
148 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
149 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
150 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
151 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
152 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
153 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
154 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
155 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
156 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
157 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
158 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
159 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
160 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
161 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
162 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
163 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
164 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
165 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
166 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
167 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
168 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
169 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
170 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
171 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
172 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
173 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
174 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
175 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
176 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
177 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
178 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
179 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
180 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
181 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
182 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
183 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
184 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
185 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
186 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
187 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
188 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
189 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
190 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
191 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
192 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
193 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
194 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
195 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
196 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
197 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
198 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
199 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
200 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
201 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
202 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
203 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
204 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
205 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
206 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
207 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
208 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
209 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
210 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
211 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
212 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
213 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
214 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
215 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
216 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
217 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
218 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
219 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
220 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
221 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
222 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
223 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
224 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
225 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
226 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
227 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
228 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
229 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
230 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
231 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
232 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
233 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
234 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
235 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
236 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
237 ANCHORAGE 10 (B) 9 (G) 4 (H) 1-1-1-1 J. Coughlan 80
238 ANCHORAGE 1

Christian Dymond tries his hand at octopush — underwater 'hockey' with a two-and-a-half-pound puck

The silent clash of the squid pushers

Spit into your mask, wipe the saliva around the inside of the lens and then rinse in water. Nothing apparently works as cheaply and well as spit to prevent fogging up in the swimming pool. Poor vision is the last thing you want when you're playing octopush.

Next step is to don fins. They used to be called flippers but fins sounds more racey even though wearing socks is recommended to prevent foot rub. And walk backwards once you've got them on. It's a lot easier, says James Cassidy, a scuba diver for 13 years and a member of the Farnham and Guildford octopush club.

Now for the snorkel. Grip it between the molars, take a breath through your mouth before you dive and then clear the snorkel by blowing out either just before or just as you surface. Then repeat the procedure.

"Confidence in being underwater is very important," says Clare Straiton, development officer for the British Octopush Association and another member of the Farnham and Guildford club.

With up to six players on each side the aim is to flick or push the 2½lb lead puck into the opposition's three metre wide metal trough. In other words their goal or gully.

Next come the heavily rubberised gloves, essential to protect the knuckles against rubbing on the bottom of the pool and accidental rapping by other players.

Finally the slightly curved stick — the pusher — which looks like a thick spatula and is usually hand-made of wood or plastic. It is about one foot long, half handle, and the outside edge of the blade is slanted so you can flick the puck fairly easily off the bottom. Some people drill holes in the pusher to reduce its resistance to water.

In competition the blade is marked black or white to identify the two teams. Further identification is provided by the light and dark water polo hats (with ear protectors). The game is played for 15 minutes each way — swapping ends is important when the pool has a significant slope.

With so much else to concen-

SPORT FOR ALL

trate on beneath the surface. I realised, during my first attempt at the game, the importance of not having to worry about your breathing. Sadly my snorkelling technique was not quite up to scratch. Nor had I really mastered the art of the duck dive or "finning" along the bottom of the pool, though I was quite proud of my puck pushing. While I was reduced to the role of underwater spectator, I did at least get a fish-eye view of this extraordinary game.

At the Spectrum Leisure Centre, in Guildford, the teams lined up at each end of the pool and, on the referee's whistle, swam towards the puck placed in the middle. Thereafter, it looked like every man for himself — although, of course, it isn't.

Players dribble and pass the puck along the bottom. They dummy, twist, tackle and seem to thrash around at random. Then they bob up for air but quick as a flash they're down again to resume battle. The secret is in the timing. Get rid of the puck just before you need some oxygen and preferably to someone on your own side who has got a lung full. Team work is essential.

Clare Straiton, a member of the Great Britain women's team since 1988, says it's vital to keep your body as close and parallel to the bottom as possible when you are in possession of the puck. This cuts down on the possibility of the opposition swimming underneath and nabbing it.

In serious games up to four substitutes can be waiting on the side of the pool but they can't get in until the person retiring is completely out of



Pooling resources: the trick in octopush is to pass the puck before you run out of breath, preferably to a team-mate who has just returned from the surface with full lungs

the water. Substitutions are made extremely quickly.

From above, the game certainly looks bizarre: heads breaking water on the way up and bottoms and fins breaking water on the way down. I'm told that octopush is not a great spectator sport but it's marvellous fun to play.

"It's a fast game, extremely good exercise and a wonderful escape after the working day. I know of some people who prefer it to a romantic meal," says Matthew Moore, a member of the Islington octopush team in London. He first played in the Orkney Islands, where one of the 120-plus teams nationwide is based. Like many octopushers Mr

Moore is a diver. The game originated at the Southsea sub-aqua club in the 1950s when divers were looking for exercise during the winter months. In the early days there were eight to a team and the puck was known as a squid — a name that still survives.

Mr Moore's coach and captain at Islington is 58-year-old Dennis Simpson — the living proof that octopush is a family sport: Mr Simpson's son, Clive, plays for Great Britain, his brother, David, is the GB coach and manager while David's sons, Greg and Clifton, also play for Britain.

At the Farnham and Guildford club there are regular

training sessions for children and adults and, like most teams they play in local leagues. They also play in the Nautilus (national) league and in a countrywide knock-out championship.

Grant Davidson, another member of the Farnham and

Guildford club, says: "It's an ideal sport for me as a bad back means I can't play rugby or squash but I enjoy swimming."

Arbiters of law and order in competitive games are two referees in the water and one on the side. The two in the

water watch for infringements which include barging an opponent off the puck or touching the puck with anything other than the blade.

Any transgression and the referee sticks his yellow gloved hand up through the water. This galvanizes the pool side

referee into sounding a gong which reverberates in the deep. The game stops immediately.

As Clare Straiton explains: "It has to be a gong because nobody can talk under water. It's one of the sport's biggest challenges"

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is a hand from the BBL Premier League match between Sower and Rosen. I was North and Brian Senior South.

Dealer West	East - West vul.	IMP's
♠ A 6 4 3 ♥ 10 9 ♦ J 10 7 3 ♣ A J 2	♠ 9 5 2 ♥ K Q J 6 ♦ 9 6 ♣ K 6 4 3	
♠ Q J 8 7 ♥ 3 ♦ A K 4 2 ♣ 10 9 7 5	♠ K 10 ♥ A 7 5 4 2 ♦ Q 8 5 ♣ Q 8	

W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♥
Double	Redouble	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Contract: Three Hearts by South. Lead: King of Diamonds

Senior's weak Two Hearts in fourth seat showed around 8-11 points with a six-card suit. I do not play Weak Twos very much but I cannot see the objection to One Heart (or an old-fashioned Pass, come to that).

After One Heart you can pass a response of Two Clubs or Two Diamonds and when you rebid Two Hearts over 1NT or One Spade you are no worse off — your partner will recognise that you are not all hearts, as you haven't opened a Weak Two.

I redoubled West's double to show a defensive type of hand. When Three Clubs came back to me (I was in a similar position to someone who has redoubled a double of an opening One Heart. Bidding Three Hearts was horrible. First of all, if my partner had a Weak Two based on good

hearts and offensive potential, he would have bid Three Hearts over Three Clubs — compare the sequence One Heart, Double, Redouble, Two Clubs.

Secondly, this is a classic 'law of total tricks' situation. In general, it is never right to compete at the three level if your side only has eight trumps and the opponents only eight or nine in their fit — if you are making your contract they will be going down in theirs.

So I should have passed (by the way, preserve me from players who double Three Clubs — altogether too keen at teams). Three Hearts went two down as Three Clubs would have done.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Quick win

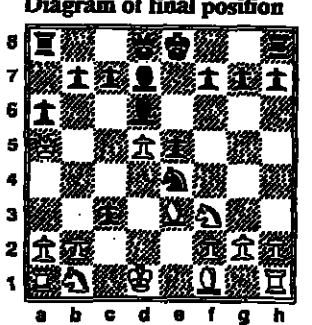
Although Tony Miles, the British Grandmaster, continues to set the pace in the Linares Zonal tournament, the most remarkable game was played by the British champion, Matthew Sadler. After a mere 11 moves, his opponent, the Spanish Grandmaster, Miguel Iliescas, threw in the towel.

White: Miguel Iliescas
Black: Matthew Sadler
Linares Zonal, November 1995

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	c5
2	c4	cxc4
3	g4	Nc6
4	Be3	Nf6
5	Nc3	e5
6	Qf3	Bd6
7	Qd4+	Bd7
8	Qc5	af
10	Nd1	Nb4
11	Kd1	c3

White resigns



In the final position White's sole method of continuing is 12 b4 when 12... b6 13 Qa3 a5 leaves Black with overwhelming compensation for his sacrificed piece.

Winning move

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Madler - Uhlmann, Aschlesleben 1963. Both sides' pieces are dangerously close to their opponents' kings. In such a situation, the move is crucial, and here it is Black's move. How did he make the most of this advantage?

Solution on page 40

Prize records

The Professional Chess Association have released figures for the top ten earners from the 1995 Intel Grand Prix. There were four legs held in Moscow, New York, London and Paris and the top ten in terms of prize-money earned were as follows:

	Pts	Prize (\$)
Garry Kasparov (Russ)	19	125,000
Vasily Ivanchuk (UKR)	14	65,000
Vladimir Kramnik (Russ)	11	70,000
Vesley Anand (India)	11	60,000
Michael Adams (Eng)	9	35,000
Alexander Morozov (Russ)	5	30,000
Jon Speelman (Eng)	4	30,000
Viktor Korchnoi (Swiss)	4	20,000
Joel Lautier (Fr)	4	20,000
Alexei Dreyn (Russ)	4	20,000

Schools' chess

Having sponsored the world chess championship in New York and the Paris Grand Prix, Intel is now supporting British schools' chess. To complement *The Times* Championship for schools' teams, Intel is supporting an individual schools tournament, hoping for 30,000 players to enter. For further information contact Michael Basman, the organiser, tel 0181 397 1826. The deadline for entering is December 10.

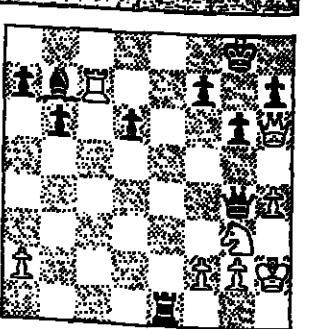
Times book

All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a *Times* book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Basilford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Winning move

By Raymond Keene



YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A LOTTERY.
TRY THESE NUMBERS INSTEAD.
0800 100 888

Find out how Abbey National can help get your finances in better shape simply by calling us free at a time convenient for you. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm or Saturday 8am to 4pm, just quote reference A363C. You'll find there's no hard sell, just clear, straightforward financial advice.

With such long odds on winning the lottery, can you afford to leave your financial future to chance?



For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom. ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

DIVING IN

For details of the British Octopush Association send SAE to: BOA, Culver Farm, Old Common Lane, Farnham, GU9 8EJ.

The following equipment is recommended:

Snorkel	£4-£25
Mask	£15-£30
Water polo cap	£5-£8
Gloves	£2-£5
Fins	£12-£15
Pusher	£12-£15
Stick	£35

LET'S GET IT RIGHT

If you have a complaint about an item in this newspaper which concerns inaccuracy, intrusion, harassment or discrimination, write to the editor about it.

If you're still dissatisfied you can write to the Press Complaints Commission, an independent organisation established to uphold an editorial Code of Practice for the Press.

THIS NEWSPAPER ABIDES BY THE PCC'S DECISIONS

PCC
1 SALISBURY SQUARE
LONDON EC4Y 8AE
Telephone 071 353 1248
Facsimile 071 353 8355
This space has been donated by the publisher

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

DYSLOGY

- a. An illogicality
- b. Unhappiness
- c. Dispraise

UNASINOUS

- a. Single-breasted
- b. Equally silly
- c. In agreement

BELOMANCY

- a. Arrow prophecy
- b. Fighting with beasts
- c. Common seabane

NODOSE

- a. Refusing medicine
- b. A hangman's knot
- c. Knobly

Answers on page 40

No insurance for bank theft by company

Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank v Burnhope and Others

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Steyn and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches November 16]

A Lloyd's policy for insurance of bank premises provided cover for financial losses for property lost through theft committed by persons present on the premises of the assured bank could only rely on the crimes committed by natural persons on the bank's premises.

The parties could not be supposed to have had section 61 of the Law of Property Act 1925 in mind so as to have had in contemplation that a company might be present on the bank's premises and commit theft there. The section provided that in all contracts and other instruments "person" included a corporation, unless the context otherwise required.

The House of Lords so held by a majority. Lord Steyn dissenting, in allowing an appeal by the insurers: (i) Stephen James Burnhope, sued on his own behalf and on behalf of all other members of Syndicate No 1067 and on behalf of all other members of other syndicates at Lloyd's who were parties to the policies concerned; (ii) Great Lakes UK, per Macthure General Insurance Co (UK) Ltd; (iii) The Copenhagen Reinsurance Co (UK) Ltd; (iv) Chubb Insurance Co of Europe Ltd; (v) Son (UK) Reinsurance Co Ltd. From a majority decision dated October 27, 1994 of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Waite and Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Staughton dissenting) (unreported, CA (Civ Div) Transcript No 1252 of 1994) whereby the court allowed an appeal by the plaintiff bank, Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank, from a decision of Mr Justice Hobhouse (1993) 2 Lloyd's Rep 518.

Following a theft by Wallace Smith Trust Co Ltd, and Mr Wallace Duncan Smith, its chairman, of the company's securities and the insurers' refusal to pay, the bank issued a writ, claiming the

value of the securities and interest thereon.

Mr Justice Hobhouse had directed the trial of a preliminary issue of law as to whether the bank's points of claim disclosed a good cause of action and decided that the criminal offence of theft was committed by the company, and through him by the company, but on the natural and ordinary meaning of the words in clause 2 of the insurance policy, theft had not been committed by any person present on the bank's premises because the only person present on the bank's premises was a junior employee of the company who had not been in any way dishonest or had committed any criminal offence.

Mr Gordon Langley, QC, and Mr Guy Phillips for the insurers; Mr David Donaldson, QC, and Mr Rory Phillips for the bank.

LORD KEITH said that the policy, described as a "bankers policy", covered the bank against direct financial losses suffered by it in a variety of circumstances.

The relevant provision was amended insuring clause 2 which, inter alia, provided: "By reason of property lost through: A (a) burglary, robbery or hold-up; or (b) theft, larceny or false pretences committed by persons present on the premises of the bank..."

In April 1991 Wallace Smith Trust Co Ltd was a customer of the bank at its Aldersgate branch and had a credit line of up to £9 million secured by treasury bills and bank certificates of deposit of approximately that value.

On April 22, Mr Wallace Duncan Smith, the chairman of the company, asked the bank to agree to a variation of the credit terms whereby the bank would allow the company to take possession of the securities held by it until close of business on any day in exchange for a letter of undertaking by the company that the latter would produce specified securities acceptable to the bank by the close of business on that day. The bank did so agree.

On April 26, Mr Towers, a junior employee of the company, telephoned the bank and stated that the company wished to withdraw the securities held by the bank in exchange for a letter of undertaking that the company would deliver alternative securities, namely a Credit Lyonnais certificate of deposit for £5 million and a Morgan Guaranty Trust Co certificate for £4 million. Those securities were acceptable to the bank.

Later that day Mr Towers attended at Aldersgate and handed over a letter signed by Mr Smith on behalf of the company undertaking to deliver to the bank that day, as soon as received by the company, the specified alternative securities. The original securities were handed over to Mr Towers. The alternative securities were in fact never delivered to the bank.

On April 29, the activities of the company were suspended on the orders of the Bank of England and Mr Smith was arrested. On the next day the Bank of England presented a petition to wind up the company and Mr Smith was charged with fraudulent trading under section 458 of the Companies Act 1985.

The company's credit line loan, amounting to accrued interest to £9,012,429.16, fell due for repayment on that day and the bank made a written demand for repayment. No repayment of any part of that sum had ever been made.

The bank claimed that it was entitled to recover from the insurers £9 million under amended insuring clause 2 of the policy, being the loss suffered by it through the securities having been stolen from it by the company or, alternatively, through its having been induced to hand over the securities by false pretences on the part of the company.

The insurers refused to pay, and the bank raised an action for payment and applied for summary judgment by summons in the Commercial Court. Mr Justice Hobhouse directed the trial of a preliminary issue of law as to

whether the facts alleged by the bank's points of claim disclosed a good cause of action under the policy and decided against the bank.

On appeal by the bank, the majority in the Court of Appeal took the view that the company was present on the bank's premises through its representative Mr Towers, who did the act of appropriating the securities and that the company committed the theft.

But Lord Justice Staughton was of opinion that the parties to the insurance were not concerned with such an artificial legal concept as the presence of a company in the bank but were concerned with the presence of actual live person. There was no theft by any real live person in the bank.

The reason why the company was guilty of theft was that its directing mind and will, Mr Smith, was himself guilty of theft. It was he who formed the dishonest intention of permanently depriving the bank of the securities, and who arranged for the innocent Mr Towers to deliver to the bank his letter containing false representations and to uplift the securities against it.

If there had been no company involved and it had been Mr Smith as an individual to whom the bank had granted the loan and who had deposited his own securities with the bank, so that the theft was committed by Mr Smith alone, then it could not be said, consistently with the ordinary use of language, that Mr Smith was being lost suffered by it when the securities were uplifted by Mr Towers.

Section 61 of the 1925 Act provided that in all contracts and other instruments "person" included a corporation unless the context otherwise required. No doubt if Mr Smith himself had taken delivery of the securities in the premises of the bank, the company, as well as Mr Smith himself, would have been criminally liable for the theft and it

could be said that the company had been present in the premises of the bank within the meaning of clause 2. In the situation where Mr Smith could not be said to be present on the bank's premises then neither could that be said of the company.

It was apparent that the purpose of clause 2(a) was to limit in some way the liability of the insurers for theft from the bank.

What precisely was in contemplation was a matter of conjecture. It might have been some form of abstraction by electronic means, carried out by persons operating away from the bank's premises.

Clause 2(a), referring to burglary, robbery or hold-up, could only relate to crimes committed by natural persons on the bank's premises. Clause 2(a), on a natural reading, had the same content in view.

It was not reasonable to suppose that the parties had in view section 61 of the 1925 Act so as to have in contemplation that a company might be present on the premises of the bank and commit theft there. What was in contemplation was a theft by a real live person in the bank.

LORD STEYN, dissenting, said that as a matter of business common sense the theft took place at the bank's premises where the company through its agent appropriated the securities. The insurers' contrary argument was a literalist argument devoid of any redeeming commercial sense.

Undoubtedly, clause 2(a) was intended to introduce an element of physical presence on the premises. It would be wrong to construe the provision in a way which rendered that ineffective. But the bank's interpretation was loyal to that objective the company was present through its duly authorised agent.

Lord Lloyd, Lord Nicholls and Lord Hoffmann delivered opinions concurring with Lord Keith.

Solicitors: Berwin Leighton Herbert Smith.

Housing refusal reasons cannot be changed

Regina v Westminster City Council, Ex parte Ermakov

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Hutton and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment November 14]

A homeless person notified in writing by his local housing authority in accordance with section 64 of the Housing Act 1985 that his homelessness was intentional but was given reasons that were inaccurate as to the reasons for the decision.

The court would not admit subsequent affidavit evidence from the housing authority seeking to validate its decision by giving reasons wholly different from the stated reasons.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the applicant, Mr Andrei Ermakov, from the dismissal by Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division in September 1994, of his application for judicial review of a decision letter from Westminster City Council, dated January 18, 1994, refusing him accommodation because his homelessness was intentional.

Mr John Samuels, QC and Mr Anthony Jermar for the applicant; Mr Clive Hughes Jones for the council.

LORD JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that by section 64 of the 1985 Act a housing authority on receiving its inquiries under section 62, was required to notify the applicant of its decision on whether he was homeless, whether he had a priority need and, if so, whether he had become homeless intentionally.

By section 64(4), if it notified the applicant that it was satisfied that his homelessness was intentional it must at the same time notify him of its reasons.

The question of law at issue was whether the judge had erred in having regard for the purposes of the section to reasons given by the council's principal homelessness officer in an affidavit dated June 27, 1994 when those reasons were fundamentally different from the reasons given in the decision letter of January 18, 1994.

That decision letter stated that the applicant was intentionally homeless because he had accommodation in Greece and that the council was not satisfied that he and his family had experienced harassment and it was reasonable for him to remain in occupation of that accommodation. By June 1994 the council admitted that that reason was inaccurate and it sought by the affidavit to supplement it.

The judge in dealing with the issue of the admissibility of the council's affidavit evidence referred to *R v Croydon London Borough Council, Ex parte Graham* (1993) 26 HLR 286 and said: "It is the real reasons and not the

form in which the real reasons appear in the decision letter that is vital. A failure to record accurately the real reasons cannot shut out from this court's sight, on judicial review, those real reasons..."

"I cannot conceive of any circumstances when it would be right to exclude from judicial review proceedings evidence of the real reasons for a decision made by a local authority, however much they might be regarded as supplementary to, and even be an afterthought to those reasons given to the homeless person at the time of the decision..."

But the weight of the authorities favoured the applicant. It was unrealistic to seek to draw any significant distinction, in the context of section 64, between the decision and the communication of the decision with reasons, or to treat the giving of reasons as purely procedural. The section in terms required reasons to be given at the same time as the decision was communicated.

The court could, and in appropriate cases should, admit evidence to elucidate or, exceptionally, correct or add to the reasons but should be very cautious about doing so: see per Lord

Justice Steyn in *R v Croydon LBC, Ex parte Graham* (at p292).

The function of such evidence should generally be elucidation not fundamental alteration, confirmation not contradiction. Certainly there seemed to be no warrant for receiving and relying on as validating the decision evidence, as in this case, which indicated that the real reasons were wholly different from the stated reasons.

It was not permissible to say that merely because the applicant did not feel able to challenge the bona fides of the decision-maker's explanation as to the real reasons that the applicant was therefore not prejudiced and the evidence as to the real reasons could be relied on.

Section 64 required a decision and at the same time reasons and if as reasons, which were the basis of the present case, or wholly deficient reasons were given, the applicant was prima facie entitled to have the decision quashed as unlawful.

Lord Justice Nourse gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Hutton agreed.

Solicitors: Moss Beachley & Mullen; Mr C. Wilson, Westminster.

Judges assume fair hearing abroad

In re M (Minors) (Abduction: Peremptory return order)

Before Lord Justice Russell, Lord Justice Waite and Lord Justice Schiemann

[Judgment November 14]

Judges in England and Wales would normally assume that facilities for a fair hearing would be provided in the courts of another jurisdiction and that due account would be taken of what had been said and ordered in, and undertaken by parties before the English courts.

The Court of Appeal so observed dismissing an appeal by the mother of two boys aged ten and one against a peremptory order of Mrs Justice Bracewell made in Leeds on November 9, 1995 that they be returned to Dubai, their country of habitual residence.

Mr Dermot Main Thompson for the mother; Mrs Sally Cahill for the father.

LORD JUSTICE WAITE said the mother, who was English, had married the father, a Dubai citizen, in Dubai 11 years ago. It had been her custom to bring the children to England to see their grandparents each summer.

This year, however, having brought them to England, she had filed for divorce here and in July obtained an interim residence

order for the children. The father, after making certain undertakings to the court, had obtained a peremptory order for their return to Dubai, which did not subscribe to the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction 1980.

The judge had refused the mother's request for an adjournment so that she could gather evidence which might establish that she would be disadvantaged if the issues between her and the father were litigated in Dubai rather than in England.

His Lordship said the general principle underlying the whole purpose of the peremptory order was a principle of international comity from which the courts would depart only in very exceptional circumstances. No such circumstances had been shown in the present case.

Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Schiemann agreed.

Solicitors: Thorpe & Co, Scarborough; Cranwick Watson, Leeds.

Correction

In *R v Smith (Wallace Duncan)* (The Times November 13) counsel for the appellant were instructed by Timm Sainer Decher.

Council could not create tenancies for its employees

Redbank Schools Ltd v Abdullahzadeh and Others

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Hobhouse

[Judgment November 8]

A local authority managing a children's community home with the consent of its owners in accordance with the provisions of Part II of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 did not have statutory authority to create tenancies of houses and flats attached to the home in favour of persons employed to work there. Although the employees had exclusive possession of the properties and paid rent to the local authority, they had no security of tenure, the owners being entitled to possession orders against them.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing appeals by Mr J. E. Abdullahzadeh and the occupiers of nine other properties at Redbank, a children's home at Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside, from the order of Judge Woolley at Warrington County Court on Au-

gust 5, 1994, granting possession orders to the leaseholders of the properties, Redbank Schools Ltd.

Mr Jonathan Gaunt, QC, for the occupiers; Mr Nicholas Orr for Redbank Schools.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that the occupiers contended that they were sub-lessees entitled to statutory protection from eviction under the Rent Act 1977 or the Housing Act 1988. They said that they had acquired their tenancies from Lancashire County Council acting as the agent of Redbank.

Redbank accepted that what the council had done was sufficient within the principles laid down in *Street v Mountford* (1985) AC 809 to create sub-tenancies in favour of the occupiers if it was the case, which was denied, that the council was acting as Redbank's agent and had the authority to create sub-tenancies.

In 1944 Redbank had acquired a 999-year lease of the property and had built up on it three substantial units dedicated to training, assessment and special care of juveniles. But the 1969 Act had introduced

a new statutory regime for children in care and the management of the home, a controlled community home, became thereafter, with Redbank's consent, the council's responsibility, being managed by the council through a body of managers. Sections 39 and 40 made it clear that the 1969 Act did not affect the ownership of the home.

The property held by Redbank under the lease included some 48 houses and 10 flats. The council had given exclusive occupation of various of those homes to its employees who worked at the home. The employees were required to pay rent to the council in return for exclusive occupation.

There was no agreement in the scheme that the council should assign its tenancies to Redbank for rent received and it did not do so. The council was undoubtedly purporting to grant tenancies to its employees but was doing so on its own account as it thought appropriate. That belief was

mistaken.

In 1990 the council gave two sub-tenancies to a father and his wife. The management of the home and shortly before that notice expired gave to the occupiers of the houses and flats notices to quit, expressly stated to be issued on behalf of Redbank.

The occupiers' case was based on an allegation of agency; the council, it was said, having been given the authority to create service tenancies as part of its statutory authority to manage the home.

The judge in rejecting their arguments said: "If Parliament had intended to grant power to grant tenancies to a body having no legal estate in the land, it would have announced in a fundamental declaration from English law and the law of landlord and tenant. I would have expected to find a clear non-ambiguous provision setting out the powers and no doubt the conditions as to the exercise of such powers..."

Primarily it was section 41 of the 1969 Act that defined the responsibility of the council as to the "management equipment and maintenance of a controlled community home". It further provided that anything done by the managers shall be done "as agent of the council".

It was an inference from sections 39 and 40 of the 1969 Act that the responsible authority acquired no proprietary interest in the home. Under those circumstances the occupiers' argument encountered two insuperable difficulties.

First, the managers were not authorised to do anything on behalf of Redbank and, second, the management was the manage-

ment of the community home and not the management of land such as would be involved in appointing someone to manage an estate or a block of flats let out on short tenancies.

Thus the position was one where the council had purported in its own name and on its own behalf to create adverse interest in the property of Redbank and had kept for itself the rents which had flowed from the creation of such interests. There was nothing in the statute justifying the conclusion that the council was to have that power.

Lord Justice Nourse gave a concurring and Lord Justice Roch agreed.

Solicitors: Robin Thomson & Partners, Stannore; Mr G. A. Johnson, Preston.

Vexatious standard of proof

Attorney-General v Hayward

On an application for a civil proceedings order against a vexatious litigant under section 42 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 the civil standard of proof was to be applied, having due regard to the seriousness of the issue at stake.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Pill) so held on November 10 when dismissing an appeal by S. N. W.

Lyell, formally Peter Hayward, against the decision of the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Mrs Justice Smith) on January 28, 1994 to grant the Attorney-General's application for a civil proceedings order prohibiting the appellant from instituting civil proceedings without the leave of the court pursuant to section 42 of the 1981 Act, as amended by section 24 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985.

LORD JUSTICE HENRY said that the appellant had argued that the criminal standard of proof was applicable.

Having regard to the authorities, culminating in *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Khawaja* (1984) AC 74, his Lordship was satisfied that the proper standard of proof was the civil standard, paying regard to the seriousness of the issue at stake.

Scots Law Report November 20 1995 Outer House

Use of registered name as book title

Bravado Merchandising Services Ltd v Mainstream Publishing (Edinburgh) Ltd

Before Lord McCuskey

[Judgment October 11]

Section 11(2)(b) of the Trade Marks Act 1994 permitted the use of a registered trade mark in the title of a book about persons who were in business under the registered name.

Lord McCuskey, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of Session, so held refusing the prayer of a petition brought by Bravado Merchandising Services Ltd seeking interdict against the use by Mainstream Publishing (Edinburgh) Ltd of the trade mark "Wet Wet Wet" by marketing a book of the cover of which bore the words "A Sweet Little Mystery - Wet Wet Wet - The Inside Story".

Mr Calum McNeill for the petitioners; Mr Ronald Mackay, QC and Mr Steven Woolman for the respondents.

LORD MCCUSKEY said that the petitioner was the registered owner of a trade mark, "Wet Wet Wet", which was the name of a popular group of musicians with a world-wide following. However, the respondents contended that the mark used in the title of the book was not identical with the petitioner's registered mark.

The type face of the words "Wet Wet Wet" was different from either of the world-wide following. However, the respondents contended that the mark used in the title of the book was not identical with the petitioner's registered mark.

The mark indicating the origin of the book was "Mainstream". It would be startling if books could not be published because their products simply registered. Counsel referred to *Hansard* for February 24, 1994 (1994) HL Deb

733) and the fifteenth recital of Council Directive No 89/104/EEC of December 21, 1988 to approximate the laws of member states relating to trade marks (OJ 1989 L40 p1).

The protection afforded by section 11(2) was wider than and certainly different from that afforded by section 8 of the Trade Marks Act 1938. Section 11(2) protected "the use of indications concerning... characteristics of goods..." What was being done here was to use the words as indications of the characteristic of the book, the characteristic being that the book was a study of the group.

The petitioners argued that the difference in type face was immaterial: see *In the Matter of Morry Ltd's Trade Mark* (1958) 139 RPC 139. Section 11(2)(b) of the 1994 Act, as amended by section 24 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985, provided that the use of the words in their ordinary meaning.

The word "wet" was not being used here in its ordinary descriptive meaning: see *Bismarck Ltd v Ambinus (Chemists) Ltd* (1990) 13 Ch 661, 662-3; *Morphy Ltd v BSA Ltd* (1993) 139 RPC 139; *Mars GB Ltd v Cadbury Ltd* (1987) RPC 387.

His Lordship accepted the main submissions for the petitioners in section 11(2) of the 1994 Act meant "uses in the course of a trade" in a trade mark sense: see *In the Matter of Morry Ltd's Trade Mark* (1958) 139 RPC 139. Section 11(2)(b) of the 1994 Act, as amended by section 24 of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985, provided that the use of the words in their ordinary meaning.

His Lordship saw no reason not to accept the submissions of counsel on that point. The distinction did not, however, appear to be of great value in determining the application of section 10 to the case. Mainly "wet" was an ordinary word with well understood meanings and might be used in a non-

trade mark sense, even repetitively. A travel writer who wrote an article about a foreigner walking in the Lake District in April might well, if he had been unlucky enough, give it the title "Wet Wet Wet".

That would, his Lordship supposed, be a non-trade mark sense, as in *The Beatles* case appeared to be a good example of a non-trade mark use.

To consider other examples, a well known musical group, "The Rolling Stones", all the individual components of their name as well as the whole idea of "rolling stones" were of some antiquity in ordinary usage.

It was easy to see how their name could be used in a trade mark or non-trade mark sense. It would be a question of fact in each case, as in *Mothercare*, to determine whether there was an infringement.

The same might apply to a name such as "The Dead Kennedys". But if one considered a name such as "The Beatles" one observed a difference, for it appeared to be a clever construct newly coined for a particular musical group.

No doubt a proper name could come to be used as a general descriptive word, like boycott or quelling, but until it did it would, if registered, be useable only in a trade mark sense.

Even a book entitled "The Beatles: The Golden Years" would be using "The Beatles" in a trade mark sense, there being no other sense in which that term could be used. The fact that the use of the words in a trade mark sense was essential or desirable in order to describe the subject-matter of the book would not mean that the use ceased to be used in a trade mark sense.

Acceptance of the respondents' submission that the use of "Wet Wet Wet" in the title of the book was essential to describe the subject-matter of the book did not lead

to the conclusion that the use was descriptive and therefore did not constitute use in a trade mark sense.

In the present case there was no descriptive use in the *Mothercare* sense. The repeated reference to "Wet" had nothing to do with moisture, but was a reference to the fact that the respondents were not registered without some clear indication to that effect.

What had been registered consisted of the three words related as they were in one time and without punctuation. In reaching that conclusion his Lordship followed *In the Matter of Morry Ltd's Trade Mark*.

However, even if a use was otherwise caught under section 10, it might escape condemnation as an infringement under section 11. His Lordship had not found this an easy matter, but had come to the view that the present use did fall within the terms of section 11(2)(b).

The respondents were using the trade mark as an "indication" concerning the main characteristic of the article on and with which the use was made, that is, to indicate that it was a book concerning the music group.

It would be a bizarre result of trade mark legislation, the primary purpose of which was "to guarantee the trade mark as an indication of origin", if it could be used to prevent publishers from using the protected name in the title of a book about the company or product.

If that had been the intention of Parliament, his Lordship should have expected it to have been made plain.

Law agents: J. & A. Hastie, SSC; Balfour & Manson Nightingale & Bell.

ENJOY THE CLASSICS WITH THIS EXCLUSIVE OFFER FROM PENGUIN BOOKS

Free Audiobooks

Today *The Times* offers readers up to three free audiobooks from the 10 bestselling classics, novels and autobiographies and the chance to get up to 20 Penguin titles at half price.

The titles, published by Penguin Books, have been carefully chosen to appeal to a wide variety of people and are read by familiar voices from the stage and screen or by the authors themselves. All the audiobooks are recorded on high quality cassettes.

HOW TO GET YOUR AUDIOBOOKS

To receive up to three free audiobooks complete the relevant coupon, right, and send two tokens and a cheque for £1.98 for each free audiobook, to cover the cost of p&p.

To get your half-price audiobooks send a cheque for the appropriate amount with the completed coupon to the address on the coupon. Cheques should be made payable to Penguin Books Ltd. The closing date for this offer is December 8, 1995.

CHOOSE YOUR FREE AUDIOBOOKS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

A SHORT WALK FROM HARRODS by Dirk Bogarde, read by the author.

THE PROPHET by Khalil Gibran, read by Renu Setna.

JANE EYRE by Charlotte Bronte, read by Juliet Stevenson.

THUNDER POINT by Jack Higgins, read by Roger Moore.

THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, read by Freddie Jones.

WILD HORSES by Dick Francis, read by Michael Maloney.

WUTHERING HEIGHTS by Emily Bronte, read by Juliet Stevenson.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL by Charles Dickens, read by Geoffrey Palmer.

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE by Edith Wharton, read by Kerry Shale.

BLACK BEAUTY by Anna Sewall, read by Martin Jarvis.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This offer is only open to residents of the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland. 2. Applicants must be aged 18 years and over. 3. Readers can order up to three free audiobooks but must send two differently numbered tokens for each one with an official order form from *The Times*. 4. To cover the cost of postage & packing, £1.98 must be sent, payable to Penguin Books Ltd, for each free audiobook ordered. 5. No tokens are required when ordering any of the half price books. 6. Please allow 7-10 days for delivery. 7. Offer

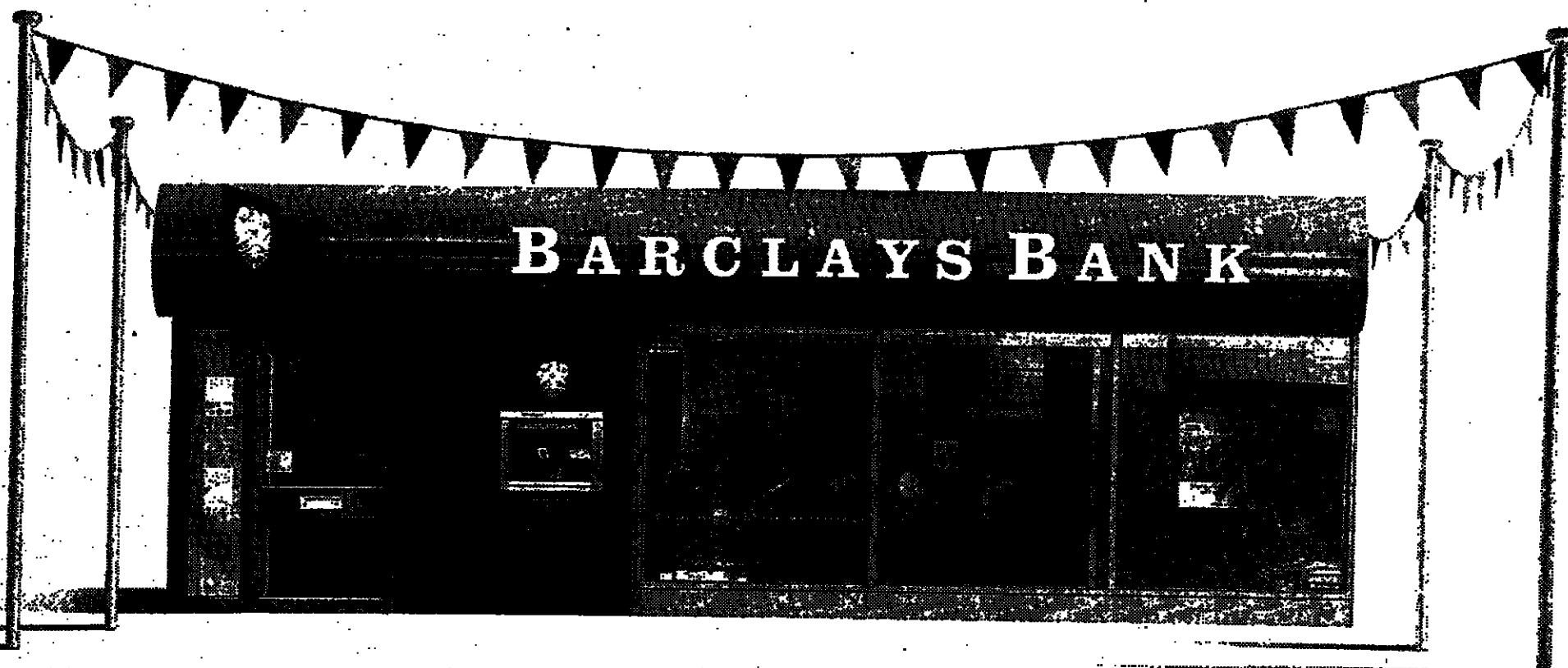
TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Company	Price	100% Div	Yield %	P/E	Market Cap £m	Company	Price	100% Div	Yield %	P/E	Market Cap £m	Company	Price	100% Div	Yield %	P/E	Market Cap £m	Company	Price	100% Div	Yield %	P/E	Market Cap £m		
4.55 Lander (T) A	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.60 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.65 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.70 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.75 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.80 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.85 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.90 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
4.95 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.00 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.05 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.10 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.15 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.20 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.25 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.30 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.35 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.40 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.45 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.50 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.55 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.60 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.65 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.70 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.75 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.80 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.85 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.90 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
5.95 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.00 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.05 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.10 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.15 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.20 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.25 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.30 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.35 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.40 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.45 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.50 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.55 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.60 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.65 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.70 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.75 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.80 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.85 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.90 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
6.95 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.00 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.05 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.10 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.15 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.20 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.25 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.30 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.35 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.40 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.45 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.50 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.55 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.60 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.65 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.70 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.75 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	1400					2.20	1400
7.80 M. Naps	160		2.0		3220	Barnard	208		2.4		49.60	Manx Energy	760		2.4		1700	2.20	14						

[illegible]

٢
هكذا من الاجل

Bring your company cars to Barclays for a full service.



In charge of a company car fleet? Then you probably feel like you need a 10,000 mile service yourself. Pull into Barclays for some professional help. We can offer you a complete vehicle management package, alternative funding options, a wide variety of management services (from checking garage bills to maintenance management), and driver support. For all company car needs, Barclays are at your service on 0181-780 0064.



BARCLAYS

VEHICLE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Applied Holographics, Capitol Group, James Cropper, DBS Management, Emap, Filofax Group, Foreign & Colonial German IT, Needer Group (Q3), South Staffordshire Water. Finalists: ABI Leisure, Diploma, Foreign & Colonial Eurotrust, Ivory & Sims Enterprise. Economic statistics: UK output, income and expenditure (Q3); building societies' monthly figures (October); banking groups' monthly statement (October); provisional estimates of M4 and counterparties (October).

TOMORROW

Interims: Baring Stratton, CML Microsystems, Costall, De La Rue, Walt Disney (Q3), Faupel Trading Group, Hewlett, Kalamazoo Computer, Lowndes Lambert Group, Meyer International, M&G Income Inv Trust, M&G Recovery Inv Trust, Northern Foods, NSM, Readcut Intl, RIT Capital Partners, Sketchley, Thom EMI, Vodafone Group. Finalists: Amber Industrial Holdings, Anglo Irish Bank Corp, McLeod Russel Holdings. Economic statistics: Capital expenditure (Q3 provisional); stocks and work in progress (Q3 provisional); balance of trade with countries outside EU (October).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Courtaulds, F&G Private Equity, IWP International, Kowill Systems, Symonds Engineering, Siam Selective Growth, Sterling Industries, Wagon Industrial. Finalists: American Opportunity Trust, ANZ, Ferraris Group, Granada Group, OEM.

THURSDAY

Interims: Babcock Intl, Bogod, Brockhampton Holdings, Caladonia Investment, Chelms Group, Gartmore Shared Equity, Thomas Looker, Macdonald Martin Distill, Martin Currie Euro Inv Trust, North West Water, Powell Duffryn, Siam Selective Growth, Storehouse, Tex Holdings, TLG. Finalists: Murray Emerging Economies, On Demand Information, Tomkins.

FRIDAY

Interims: Cambridge Water Co, Dart Group, Grampian Television, London Clubs, Osborne & Little, Quilligott, Radstone Technology, St James's Place Capital, Stoddard Sakers Intl, TR Property Invest Trust. Finalists: SEC Group. Economic statistics: CBI monthly trends inquiry (November); engineering turnover and orders (September).

COMPANIES

PHILIP PANGALOS

Northern Foods feels the heat



Sir Colin Southgate is expected to bang the drum over Thorn-EMI's performance

NORTHERN FOODS: A decline in doorstep milk deliveries and the adverse effects of the hot summer on sales of some foods will limit first-half profits at the dairy and foods group.

Northern is Britain's biggest dairy company, so the 12 per cent annual decline in doorstep deliveries and continuing competition from supermarkets will have affected tomorrow's interim results. In addition, the hot weather is likely to have depressed sales of such food products as chocolate biscuits and ready meals. Northern is a leading supplier of ready meals and sandwiches to Marks & Spencer, and supplies pies, cakes, biscuits and dairy products to Sainsbury, Tesco and Safeway.

Michael Landymore at Henderson Crosthwaite has pencilled in first-half pre-tax profits of £54.5 million (£64.2 million), with an "at least" maintained interim dividend of 3.5p predicted. Market forecasts range from £53 million to £57 million. EMAP: Acquisitions and organic growth are expected to fuel a healthy advance in first-half profits from Emap, the media, publishing and exhibitions group that acquired Newcastle-based Metro Radio earlier this year. New radio stations will boost operating profits, but underlying profits growth at the consumer magazines operation is likely to be held back by flat circulations and higher paper prices.

Interim pre-tax profits, due today, are expected to rise to £35 million (£22.2 million), according to Kleinwort Benson. Market forecasts range from £33 million to £35 million. A dividend of 3.4p (2.5p) is predicted.

DE LA RUE: The world's largest banknote and cheque printer, which also has a 22.5 per cent stake in Camelot, the consortium that runs the National Lottery, is expected to announce a modest rise in first-half profits tomorrow.

In spite of the acquisition of Portals, the specialist security paper company, interim pre-tax profits are expected to climb to

only £77 million (£72 million), according to Merrill Lynch. Market forecasts range from £63 million to £80 million, with the dividend expected to rise to between 7.5p and 7.9p (7p).

Earlier this year, the group warned of a slowdown in earnings growth, largely because of the acquisition of Portals. Underlying profitability is likely to be down, although last year's performance was particularly strong.

Security printing profits are being affected by lower orders in currency operations.

THORN EMI: Tomorrow's first-half profits from the music-to-rentals group headed by Sir Colin Southgate should be on song. UBS expects pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30 to jump to £182 million (£126 million). Market forecasts range from £173 million to £182 million. The interim dividend is predicted

to rise to 10.25p (9.75p). The group's EMI music division is thought to have continued its strong first-quarter performance, while forthcoming releases from the likes of the Beatles and Queen should keep the division in the limelight. Further news is awaited on the proposed demerger of the music division.

UBS said trading conditions in the two major rental markets, the US and UK, remain difficult, but

first-quarter profits were up 21 per cent, excluding the elimination of Rumbelows losses after further cost reduction.

VODAFONE: James Ross at ABN Amro Hoare Govett is looking for tomorrow's first-half pre-tax profits from the mobile phone group to advance to £205 million (£186 million). An interim dividend of 1.92p (1.64p) is predicted. Market forecasts range from £190 million to £208 million.

Start-up losses from overseas operations are likely to have peaked in the first half, with increasing numbers of its businesses moving towards profitability. Mr Ross says market growth has been quite strong, while last year's extra marketing incentive payments should have now peaked. In addition, overseas operations are thought to be going well as a number of start-ups move into profit.

Analysis will also be keen to see how much market share Vodafone has gained in the UK compared with Cellnet, its major rival, although some fear more competition from Orange. **COURTAULDS:** Margin pressure and higher interest costs are expected to lead to a disappointing set of first-half figures from Courtaulds, when the coatings, fibres and chemicals group reports on Wednesday. Profit margins have been squeezed by higher raw-material costs, particularly in fibres, while interest costs have also risen.

Kleinwort Benson expects pre-tax profits to fall to £68 million (£80.7 million). Forecasts range from £67 million to £72 million. **GRANADA GROUP:** The television to motorway service stations group is expected to unveil a strong profits rise when it reports annual figures on Wednesday.

A combination of LWT's contribution, strong television advertising and improved contract catering profit margins should have helped full-year profits to advance to £345 million (£265 million), according to UBS. Market forecasts range from £335 million to £345 million.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Sharp focus on Budget

IMPORTANT British economic releases at the beginning and end of this week are the last before the Budget on November 28. The week kicks off with the first revision to third-quarter gross domestic product and ends with the Confederation of British Industry's latest monthly trends survey.

Third-quarter GDP is generally expected to show unchanged growth of 0.5 per cent, giving a year-on-year growth rate of 2.4 per cent. On the same day, October figures for M4 money supply are released. The median market forecast published by MMS International is for a 0.2 per cent rise, giving a year-on-year growth rate of 8.4 per cent, up from 8.2 per cent in September.

Although Eddie George, Bank of England Governor, has consistently expressed concerns about the acceleration of M4, this is unlikely to weigh heavily in the balance if the Chancellor wants to cut interest rates to revive economic growth.

The only other British indicator of a week which inevitably will be focused on the Budget is visible trade for October excluding the European Union — tomorrow. The MMS consensus forecast is for a deficit of £800 million after a shortfall of £696 million in September.

Elsewhere, the main focus is likely to be on Germany and particularly the M3 figures. Nigel Richardson, head of bond research at Yamaichi International Europe, expects to see a further moderation in monetary growth. Producer prices figures, also due, are expected to reinforce the message of sub-2 per cent inflation in Germany for some time to come, he says.

The Bundesbank left official German interest rates unchanged last week but this week's data is expected to strengthen the argument for a cut.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy TBI, Gardner, Macdonald Martin Dist. Hold British Gas. *The Observer:* Buy Reuters, Prudential. Sell Arjo Wiggins Appleton, Rexam. *Independent on Sunday:* Buy Capita Group, Dana Petroleum, Abacus Group. Sell Forward Group, High-Point. *The Mail on Sunday:* Buy Wessex, Protean. *The Sunday Telegraph:* Buy Sanderson Elec., Granada, Sherwood Computer.

Chinese breakthrough for City

By JON ASHWORTH



Cassidy: won assurances

BRITISH firms are set to make strong inroads into the lucrative Chinese market, following a ground-breaking agreement between London and Shanghai.

Chinese authorities have indicated their willingness to waive the usual red tape, in return for City of London training and expertise.

Accountants and merchant banks are among those most likely to benefit from any relaxation of the stiff regulations governing foreign investment in China.

Authorities in Shanghai are

willing to make the concessions in their quest to surpass Tokyo and Hong Kong as the Asia-Pacific's leading financial centre.

Michael Cassidy, policy chairman of the Corporation of London, won the assurances during a visit to Shanghai last week.

Hua Jim Nin, the acting mayor of Shanghai, offered concessions in return for UK financial expertise, in the construction of Shanghai's new financial district in the vast Pudong development.

British firms will be offered

greater access to China in return for advising on accounting and regulatory issues. Exchange visits are planned.

Mr Cassidy denied the offer of assistance would threaten London's status as a financial centre.

He said: "This is not just the City of London helping to set up a rival financial centre abroad. Shanghai could never compete with London in our time zone."

London competes fiercely with Frankfurt and Paris to attract foreign investment.

National coal strike looms over CRA dispute

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA is bracing itself for a national coal strike in protest over attempts by CRA, the mining group that is being merged with RTZ, the British mining combine, to introduce individual contracts for its employees.

The seven-day national walkout looms despite the fact that Actu, Australia's trade union body, has agreed to call off all strike action outside CRA before today's arbitration talks at the Industrial Commission.

The mining union said yesterday that the coal mine strike would continue until definite progress is made in the talks. Hector Hughmiller, of the Actu, said: "There is no way in the world that the coalminers of the country are going to return to work until such time as something is written in black and white because it's quite simple — we do not trust CRA."

Analysts have given warning that a national coal strike will cost the country millions in lost exports. Coal is one of Australia's main exports and is expected to earn about A\$5.6 billion (£2.6 billion) this year. CRA is expected to face a profit shortfall of A\$3 million from a week of lost coal production.

At the heart of the dispute between CRA and the unions are 75 workers at CRA's bauxite mine in Queensland, who went on strike a month ago after refusing to accept individual contracts at higher pay as a substitute for collective bargaining. CRA's move to introduce individual contracts is perceived as a deliberate ploy to weaken the power of Australia's unions, and union leaders have said the outcome of the dispute will determine the future of union collective bargaining.

Until Actu's agreement to call off all strikes not directly relating to CRA unions across the country, from shipping to airlines, had also planned to strike in protest at CRA's move. Bob Hawke, former prime minister and union heavyweight, has been brought in to present Actu's case at the Industrial Commission.

Industrialists gave warning that if the strike continues, Australia's power services will also come under threat as coal supplies dry up.

Cash appeal for tax battle

By ANNE ASHWORTH

LAW and accountancy firms are being asked, in a letter sent out this weekend, to contribute £500 each to a fighting fund set up by Norton Rose, the City solicitors. The funds will be used to pay for a client's defence expected to cost £60,000 or more — against an Inland Revenue appeal.

Norton Rose's plea is the latest twist in the controversial Ingram inheritance tax case, the outcome of which could affect hundreds of other families. During her lifetime, the late Lady Ingram transferred the freehold of her Berkshire

home and its surrounding acres to a trust, of which her children and grandchildren were beneficiaries. She remained as tenant, taking on a 20-year rent-free lease.

The manoeuvre, which saved a six-figure sum in inheritance tax, was successfully challenged by the Inland Revenue earlier this year. The High Court ruled that the lease was "a wasting non-assignable asset, incapable of realisation".

The ruling came as a relief to other families which, in the Eighties, had entered into

similar schemes, but the Revenue promptly announced that it would mount an appeal to clarify the situation. The Ingram executors are said not to have the resources to contest the action.

Michael Macfadyen, a partner at Norton Rose and the Ingram family adviser, said: "I believe that it is important for those who may be affected in the future and their advisers to band together to resist this appeal."

The firm says lawyers involved are "holding their fees to a minimum".

GET MORE FOR YOUR MONEY

FREE EXTRA POWER on selected desktop models from Olivetti Personal Computers NOW!



For more details and the location of your nearest participating Olivetti reseller, call free on 0800 44 77 99. (9.00am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri. Answerphone at all other times.)

olivetti
personal computers

Pentium is a registered trademark and Intel Inside is a trademark of the Intel Corp. B&OE. Olivetti reserves the right to change specifications without prior notice.

THE TIMES TRAVEL OFFER

THE EMPRESS OF THE NILE
7 nights on the Nile for only £429

Departures: December 1, 8 January 5, 12, 19, 26 February 2

The pharaohs of Egypt left behind a civilisation which has astonished the world ever since. This is a wonderful opportunity to discover 5,000 years of history on board the luxuriously appointed 61m Nile Empress river boat. With only 31 cabins, the Empress is large enough to ensure an interesting mix of people whilst retaining that personal touch. All cabins are outer-facing, with air conditioning and private bathroom facilities. The Empress also has a swimming pool, bar, restaurant and two sun decks.

The cruise operates between Luxor and Aswan, allowing visits to some of the most important archaeological sites in Upper Egypt, including the temple of Karnak, with its famous Hall of Columns, and the futuristic mortuary temple of Queen Hatchepsut. Also included is the tomb of Tutankhamun in the desolate and starkly beautiful Valley of the Kings, ancient necropolis of the New Kingdom pharaohs.

Included in the price:
• Direct flights from Gatwick to Luxor
• Transfers in and from the Empress.
• Full board throughout the cruise.
• Services of a resident Tour Manager.
• Over 10 different excursions with a qualified Egyptologist.
Not included:
• Alcoholic drinks and gratuities.
• Visa costs and departure taxes.

EMPRESS OF THE NILE OFFER

Please send me further details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss).....

Address.....

Post Code.....

☐ If you do not wish to receive further information from Times Newspapers or companies specially selected by us, please tick the box.

SECOND WEEK EXTENSIONS

7 nights: Movenpick hotel in Luxor, bed & breakfast £190
4 nights: Luxor Hilton, 3 nights at the Cairo Nile Hilton (both bed & breakfast), including a guided tour to the Pyramids and Sphinx £369

Apply for further information by returning the coupon to

GOLDENJOY HOLIDAYS
36 MILL LANE
LONDON, NW6 1NR

or telephone:
0171 794 9767

This holiday is operated by Goldenjoy Holidays, a company independent of Times Newspapers Ltd.
ABTA 53734 ATOL 2544



David Jefferies will be responsible for the development of longer-term strategies at the National Grid as a clearer management structure starts to take effect after flotation

Grid surges towards autonomy

Christine Buckley assesses the future at home and abroad for a monopoly ready to free itself from the shackles of outside control

Full independence is about to dawn for a company originally created from the cobbling together of bits and pieces left over from the privatisation of electricity.

The National Grid, which controls the transmission of electricity, issues its prospectus for flotation on Wednesday, debuting on the Stock Exchange on December 11 with an expected value of £3.4 billion.

Before the splitting of the Central Electricity Generating Board five years ago, when the regional electricity companies were floated, there was no such thing as the Grid. Once the regional distributors and generators had been split out, the Grid was what was left — the means of conducting electricity and a natural monopoly.

What flotation will mean for the Grid, above all, is autonomy. Hitherto, the Grid, which along with transmission also has responsibility for administering the electricity spot market, the pool and the pool settlement system, has had to answer to a board composed of members of the 12 electricity companies who together owned the Grid.

Securing agreement from 12 separate interests is not a recipe for dynamism. It was said that a lack of agreement by the 12 members on a value for Energis, the Grid's telecoms subsidiary, led to Energis failing to bring in AT&T as a partner when it

started trading last year. Such a hitch has hampered the Grid's ambition to push Energis as the third force in the UK telecoms market. With the aid of a clearer management structure post-flotation, the spotlight will fall on the development of longer-term strategies by David Jefferies, the chairman.

The unlocking of extra value for shareholders by the other parts of the privatised electricity industry has reached such proportions that the market will clearly expect the Grid to find a good deal of its own.

Anticipation will also surround the pricing review by Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator. Last week, Professor Littlechild said he may abandon RPI-X, the controversial price formula linked to inflation and which he invented, in relation to transmission price control for the Grid. His decision is expected next summer and a new pricing regime will be implemented in April 1997.

Under its own steam and as a fully commercial company, the Grid is expected to push further its international expansion. At present, it is involved in transmission projects in Argentina and Pakistan but it has aspirations to be far more of a global

player. The Grid will be in a good position to steal a march on many foreign competitors in the race to serve overseas electricity needs by being one of the first privatised transmission companies in the world. The company is thought to be willing to spend up to £400 million on overseas projects.

It is also planning a substantial investment at home with the development of the transmission system down the East Coast, a saga that has been running since 1991, when the Grid submitted plans to bolster transmission lines in North Yorkshire. The fine tuning of development ratification still has to be done and it could be 1997 before the project is completed, with costs expected to touch £100 million.

While having the managerial freedom for expansion, the Grid will be highly geared after flotation. This is largely because of the removal of its valuable pumped storage business, which is for sale separately. The pumped storage plants in North Wales provide hydroelectricity in times of greatest need by a massive release of water. The electricity they provide is very expensive and is

called upon only at peak times. This business will be sold for about £300 million. The Grid will also be stripped of cash through having to pay special dividends to the regional electricity companies. The Grid's gearing, currently about 10 per cent, is expected to jump to 120 per cent by March.

The flotation, which will propel the Grid into the FT-SE 100, is an introduction to the market rather than a full-blown float. By demerging the Grid from ownership by the regional electricity companies, there will be no new shareholders and no new money as the shares will go to the regional electricity companies or their new owners. Whether shareholders of those companies gain new Grid shares depends on the company status. The few remaining independent electricity companies have pledged to pass back the shares; those which have been taken over will not; those in the throes of takeover moves have not decided.

Those companies that do hang on to Grid shares will, in any case, have to dispose of them within a year because anyone involved in the electricity industry will not be

allowed to own more than 1 per cent of the Grid. There will also be a ban on any investor owning more than 15 per cent and the Government will retain a golden share to prohibit a takeover.

At present, the pricing of Grid shares is expected to settle around the £2 mark, which would put a market capitalisation on the company of £3.4 billion. This figure will depend greatly on the progress of grey trading, which starts on Wednesday when the prospectus is issued. Such trading, an unusual feature on the market, will involve conditional deals between parties in anticipation of real ones which will be possible on the actual day of flotation. The level of interest will be an important gauge for setting the share price and the practice should — in theory — avoid significant mispricing of the issue.

Meanwhile the appetite for the Grid seems a little uncertain. The company is certainly poised for a new era on the back of managerial freedom, but the extent of its growth prospects are less clear. The Grid recently aborted, at the last minute, plans for a large eurobond issue. It blamed the cancellation on the work that needed to be done before its flotation. More sceptical views suggest that the issue was suspended after the Grid had tested the investment water and found demand might not be there.

GILT-EDGED

More Budget options than tax giveaway

Last week's data clinched the argument for an easing in UK economic policy, but it is debatable how this will be implemented. Two weeks ago, a big tax giveaway of, say, £5 billion, offset by spending cuts, looked likely. Further reflection suggests a more restrained Budget on November 28 but a worthwhile pre-Christmas base-rate cut, as argued by Anatole Kaletsky on Thursday.

We wonder whether Mr Clarke might offer tax reductions of only, say, £3 billion for fiscal 1996-97, and announce a half-point rate cut in his Budget speech. At a stroke, he would please several groups.

Voters may be disappointed by a smaller than expected windfall, but Mr Clarke will surely make specific promises for further tax cuts in 1997-98 and 1998-99. A programme of £10 billion of tax reductions over three years may be easier to sell than an unsuitable electoral bribe of £5 billion this year.

Backbench Conservative MPs will quickly realise the beneficial impact of a decent-sized rate cut on the housing market. The financial markets will welcome the reduced strain on public finances and the bold interest-rate move. However, the icing on the cake will be provided by overseas investors. The gilt market has underperformed this year and looks cheap among global bond markets. More important, sterling's prospects look exceptionally bright.

We have four main reasons for this view. First, our exchange-rate models suggest the dollar is undervalued against the mark and recent history shows that when the dollar rallies, so does the pound.

Fears of a giveaway Budget and lower interest rates plus US debt worries have pushed the pound to an all-time low of DM2.18, but this

weakness will be transitory. Post-Budget, sterling will benefit, moving back towards DM2.23, a level more typical with a mark/dollar exchange rate of 1.41. A US budget deal and a Fed rate cut may trigger a dollar rally to, say, DM1.50, which would imply DM2.35/£.

Second, over the past decade there has been a link between the UK yield curve and mark/sterling, where a flatter yield curve implies a stronger pound. Since January 1, the yield curve has flattened by a full percentage point as inflation expectations have eased, yet the pound has fallen by nearly 10 per cent versus the mark, again leaving the pound undervalued.

Third, relative interest-rate expectations may also favour the pound. Both the UK and German economies are sufficiently weak to justify an interest-rate cut. If the Chancellor moves decisively and the Bundesbank dithers, the pound will rise.

Finally, since the mid-1960s the real mark/sterling exchange rate has tended to rise as the UK's current account position, expressed as a percentage of GDP and relative to Germany, has improved. The markets have failed to reward sterling for the improvement in the UK's relative current-account position. Again, we conclude sterling is undervalued.

Thus, a gilt-friendly Budget would make political sense while a positive sterling outlook will continue to draw in overseas investors. The ten-year gilt yield, currently 7.3 per cent, could easily trade below 7.5 per cent before the year-end, resulting in a further narrowing in the spread over Germany. Christmas may indeed come early this year.

DICK HOWARD AND
ADRIAN OWENS
Julius Baer Investments
Limited

Increased TESSA rates from C&G

Effective from 20 November 1995

AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PAID	INTEREST RATE
Maximum permitted under TESSA rules	Annually	7.25% Tax-free
£1,000 or more	Annually	5.75% Tax-free

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester

We're run to make you richer

Cheltenham & Gloucester plc Registered in England No 2299428
Registered Office: Barnet Way, Gloucester, GL4 3RL

The interest rate for the Ex-Heart of England TESSA is increased to 7.25%. Rates are variable. Income tax is not paid on TESSA interest provided all of the TESSA conditions are followed. Interest rates on all other C&G investment accounts remain unchanged. Full details of TESSA conditions and all C&G investment accounts are available on request.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.21	2.05
Austria Sch	16.41	14.91
Belgium Fr	48.02	43.72
Canada \$	2.216	2.056
Cyprus Cyp£	0.739	0.654
Denmark Kr	8.10	8.50
Finland Mkk	7.10	6.45
France Fr	7.96	7.31
Germany Dm	2.34	2.13
Greece Dr	378.27	353.27
Hong Kong \$	12.67	11.67
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1200	4.4700
Italy Lire	2541.00	2426.00
Japan Yen	172.93	158.93
Malta	0.587	0.532
Netherlands Gld	2.606	2.376
New Zealand \$	2.54	2.32
Norway Kr	10.26	9.46
Portugal Esc	240.50	222.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.35
Spain Ptas	165.00	162.00
Sweden Kr	10.88	10.08
Switzerland Fr	1.91	1.73
Turkey Lira	ref.	78113.0
USA \$	1.654	1.524

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

Accountants lose their way in the corridors of power

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRITAIN'S boardrooms are ruled by accountants, but the profession has so far failed to infiltrate Whitehall's corridors of power, according to research published today by Hays, the accountancy recruiter.

The survey, *Who runs Britain*, found that only 17 per cent of Treasury civil servants possessed an accountancy qualification and that no Chancellor of the Exchequer since the war has had a background in accountancy. In contrast, eight Chancellors have been barristers, including the present holder of the office, Kenneth Clarke.

In Parliament, only 14 MPs — 12 Conservative and two Labour — are qualified accountants. The survey suggests that the failure of accountants to take up roles in government is connected to the relatively low rates of pay of politicians and civil servants.

However, one in three professionally qualified chairmen or chief executives and 40 per cent of all top directors on FT-SE 100 boards have a background in accountancy, beating the boardroom representatives of the legal, banking and engineering professions put together.

Respondents to a survey of 250 businessmen, conducted by MORI for Hays, voted John Major the celebrity who most resembled an accountant, although his background is in banking. Other names in that top ten included Steve Davies, the snooker player, and the Victor Meldrew character in the *One Foot in the Grave* television comedy series.

The survey found that the personal attributes most commonly associated with accountants were efficiency and conscientiousness. However, just 6 per cent felt that accountants were interesting and only 8 per cent considered them dynamic, although the survey found that accountants were seen as more dynamic than they were ten years ago.

SAFETY NOTICE

Hilka
12 VOLT
CORDLESS
DRILL KIT
MODEL No. 91126012



As part of our ongoing quality tests, we have identified a potential safety problem with the battery charger base on the above model, which will have been purchased from B&Q or The Depot since September 1995. (No other Hilka products are affected.) The battery can, in some instances, be inserted incorrectly into the charger unit with the possibility of overheating. Do not use the charger until you have contacted the Hilka Helpline on one of the numbers listed below. Please have your battery and charger with you when you ring, or return the whole drill kit to your local B&Q store for a full refund.

HELPLINE NUMBERS

01372 747204
01372 742077
01372 742277

We apologise for any inconvenience, but are sure owners will appreciate the need to take any safety issue very seriously.

Hilka

See the
future
of
business.

And the
business
of the
future.

World Market Outlook
12:00 CET

The future will be here before you know it. So on EBN: European Business News, we make it our business not just to keep you up to the minute with the business news of the day but to keep you ahead with the news of tomorrow. And the day after. EBN is the 24 hour a day business.

European Business News

Business as you've never seen it before.

On cable and satellite television

Future File
20:00 CET

channel that's as different from other business news as day and night. Sometimes it may look like a science channel or a travel channel but it's always a business channel. Ask your cable operator or hotel today or tomorrow for EBN or tune into Sky each morning for news and features. It's the future of business news.

Richard Thomson on moves by Airbus's US rivals

Deal in the air at planemakers

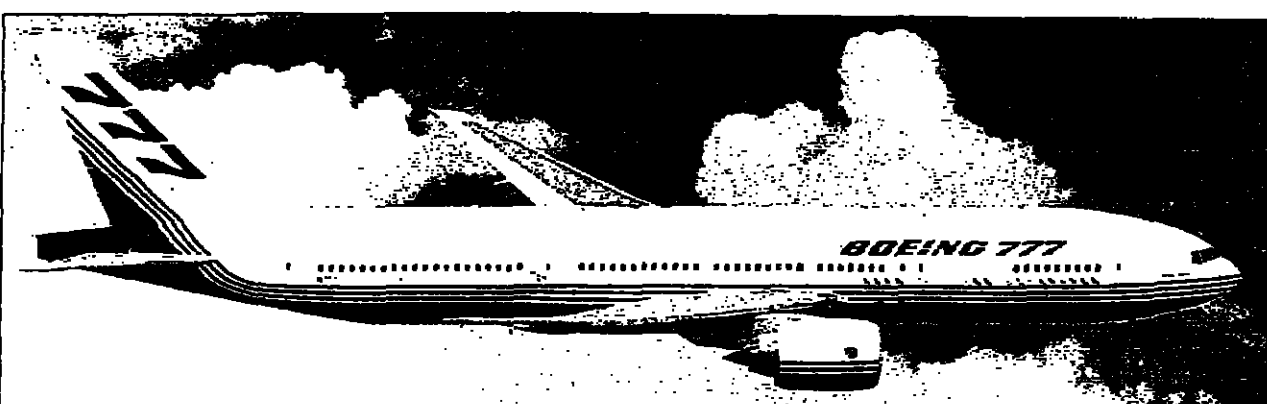
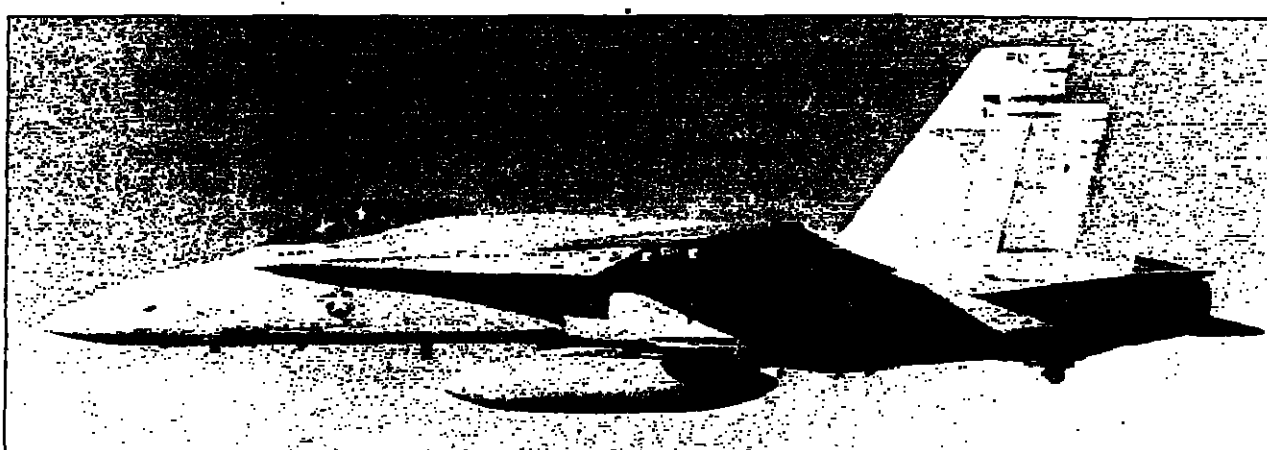
The tête-à-tête between Boeing and McDonnell Douglas smacks of the deal for which the international defence industry has been holding its breath. Ever since the end of the East-West arms race, it has become increasingly clear that huge consolidation among ARMs manufacturers was inevitable. At the same time, competition between commercial aircraft makers has become cut-throat. Something as big as the possibility of Boeing merging with McDonnell Douglas was inevitable.

Such an amalgam would be worth well over \$10 billion, creating a company with sales of \$35 billion and a workforce of 165,000. In size and market power, it would outstrip even international groups such as Airbus and Martin Marietta.

This is not the first time that Boeing and McDonnell Douglas have sounded each other out. This time, however, Wall Street and the defence industry are taking the news more seriously. McDonnell Douglas shares were marked up more than \$4, to \$90.6, on Thursday when the story broke, and Boeing's rose \$1.8, to \$75.87. "Of all deals, this one would make the most sense, especially as a merger," said Jon Kutler, president of Quarterdeck Investment Partners, a defence industry specialist.

The reason has something to do with the success of Airbus, Boeing's main rival. Airbus has overtaken McDonnell Douglas as the world's second-largest commercial aircraft manufacturer, and the US company's share of the world market is down to 10 per cent. McDonnell Douglas recently made a big sale of its new MD-95 100-seater jet, but only at prices that many consider uneconomic.

So, McDonnell Douglas's commercial aircraft business faces a bleak future. A merger with Boeing might enable the commercial aircraft operations to survive in some form. That said, certain Wall Street analysts predict an elegant phasing out of McDonnell Douglas's



McDonnell Douglas's F/A-18 Hornet military jet, top, and the Boeing 777 may feature in a long-rumoured merger

commercial aircraft business should a merger materialise. An even more important factor is that McDonnell Douglas's military aircraft business — more than twice the size of its civil operations and responsible for sales of \$7.8 billion last year — may need protection.

Until this year, McDonnell Douglas was the largest military aircraft manufacturer in the US, with sales of \$9.3 billion. However, in May, Lockheed merged with Martin Marietta to create the largest defence combine in the US, with sales of \$23 billion. Lockheed Martin has already begun to squeeze McDonnell Douglas. Competition in defence has already narrowed, worrying the US Defence Department.

Another pointer to some deal lies in McDonnell Douglas's

boardroom. Harry Stonecipher, the chief executive grappling with the company's problems, is a former head of General Electric's jet engine division, with considerable experience in defence. Moreover, he is neither a McDonnell nor a Douglas, the founding families of the group, and his perspective on the way forward is seen as more flexible than that of certain predecessors.

Boeing clearly sees a unique chance to take over a still profitable military aircraft business. A merger would also, in effect, eliminate a smaller rival in its core area of commercial jets. With its existing 60 per cent of the world market, Boeing would achieve even greater leverage against Air-

bus and emerging aerospace businesses in the Far East.

Such a combination would be daunting for Airbus. The European group put a brave face on events last week, when John Leahy, Airbus sales chief, said he "sort of liked the idea" because it simplified players in commercial aeroplanes to two heavyweights. This is fighting talk, but, with Airbus just having lost out to Boeing in a \$12 billion deal with Singapore Airways, tension in Airbus must be high.

Airbus presumably hopes that any Boeing/McDonnell Douglas deal will be blocked on US anti-trust grounds. US defence experts also believe that there is a high risk of the talks ending in an emergency landing. One industrialist put the chances of a full-scale

merger being waved through at "less than 10 per cent".

However, Boeing, which has pushed hard for a merger, is more optimistic. The US government has encouraged defence industry consolidation in recent years as defence spending has been slashed. The Defence Department may favour McDonnell Douglas's military aircraft business coming under Boeing's umbrella. A Boeing/McDonnell Douglas amalgam would be the mother of all mergers, but the companies can argue that the fit is so complementary that market shares of the military and commercial operations would show relatively little change. Whether the politicians agree is a moot point.

The alternative to a full merger is that Boeing and McDonnell Douglas try to bypass the anti-trust hurdle and opt for an asset swap — a much less momentous outcome for the US defence industry and the world aircraft industry. Obvious areas of synergy would be the companies' respective helicopter and space operations. The problem for McDonnell Douglas is that such deals would not address the company's fundamental problems. Should a merger prove politically unacceptable, an asset swap may be all that transpires from current talks. There would be sighs of relief in Europe, but not necessarily in Mr Stonecipher's office.

Listings with link to Internet lead way on AIM

TECHNOLOGY stocks were again the star performers on the Alternative Investment Market, the new market for smaller and growing companies.

There were further gains for Firecrest Shares in the advertising-to-promotions group have more than trebled this month, ending last week at 203p.

Firecrest recently landed the exclusive UK rights to market and distribute the DigiPhone software package, which lets users of Internet telephone anywhere in the world via the Internet for just the price of a local call.

On Friday, Firecrest signed a contract with Energis to give Nethead, its access provider to the Internet, global computer network, points of presence throughout the UK. This provides immediate coverage of 87 per cent of the UK, which will be raised by the new year. The initial deal will allow for 20,000 subscriptions, though this can be increased at any time.

Nethead's subscribers will get access to the Internet for the price of a local call, with cable firms offering free telephone calls, some users will get free access to the World Wide Web. The monthly charge is £7.99.

Julian Palfreyman, a director at Winterflood Securities, a market-maker in all of the stocks listed on AIM, said: "The technology sector is seeing some very good trade. It has been a hotbed of activity for private clients and we are seeing more money being raised on AIM."

He said Internet-related stocks continue to attract attention, adding "anything that has got 'net' in the title is flavour of the month".

AIM, which succeeds the Unlisted Securities Market and the Stock Exchange's Rule 4.2 matched bargain trading facility, has 107 stocks traded, with a total market capitalisation of £1.84 billion. The total cash raised since AIM started on June 19 climbed to £52.5 million.

The of nominated advisers approved by the Stock Exchange remains at 56.

New companies due to join AIM shortly include the Trocadero leisure complex, View Inn and Pet City, the pet superstore group.

PHILIP PANGALOS

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 34

DYSLOGY

(c) Dispraise, disabliging and uncomplimentary remarks, the opposite of eulogy. OK, everybody, let's hear it for the retiring News Editor. Let's give him the hearty dyslogy he so richly deserves.

UNASINOUS

(b) Being equally stupid, from the Latin *una* together + *asinus*, connected with Greek *onos* a donkey. "What a lovely marriage ceremony! So rare to see a couple so suited — so well-matched, so unasinous in every respect."

BELOMACY

(a) Predicting the future by the use of arrows, eg by shooting an arrow into the air and interpreting its flight and destination. The future of the then reigning English monarchy was definitively and painfully foretold in this fashion at the Battle of Hastings.

NODOSE

(c) Knobbly, knotty, from the Latin *nodus* a knot, *nodosus* knotty. A reticulation of the great network of *net* words, whence, for example, *dénouement* the unknitting of a theatrical plot. When you express concern about Graham's *genual nodosity* you are in fact commenting on his knobbly knees.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Rh1+! 2 Kxh1 Qh3+ 3 Kg1 Qxg2 checkmate

THE internationally ACCLAIMED MBA

The Manchester MBA is acclaimed worldwide for its practical 'hands on' project-led approach and global exchange programme... and now we've made this valuable qualification more accessible than ever for you.

- Completion within 18 months
- Foundation module for younger managers
- Choice of specialist subject options
- International exchange and European study programme
- Recognised and respected by employers

The Manchester MBA is the ideal way to gain the real experience which is vital for success in the world of business. For more details come along to a presentation at the School on Wednesday 29th November (5.30pm for 5.45pm) or at the Westbury Hotel, Road Street at Conduit Street, London on Thursday 30th November (5.30pm for 5.45pm).

Alternatively, contact us for a brochure.

MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL
BOOTH STREET WEST, MANCHESTER M15 6PB, UK
TEL: +44 (0)161-275 6311 FAX: +44 (0)161-275 6489

PROMOTING QUALITY TEACHING AND RESEARCH

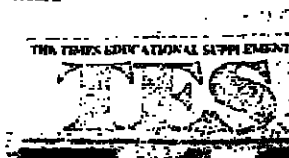
30 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL

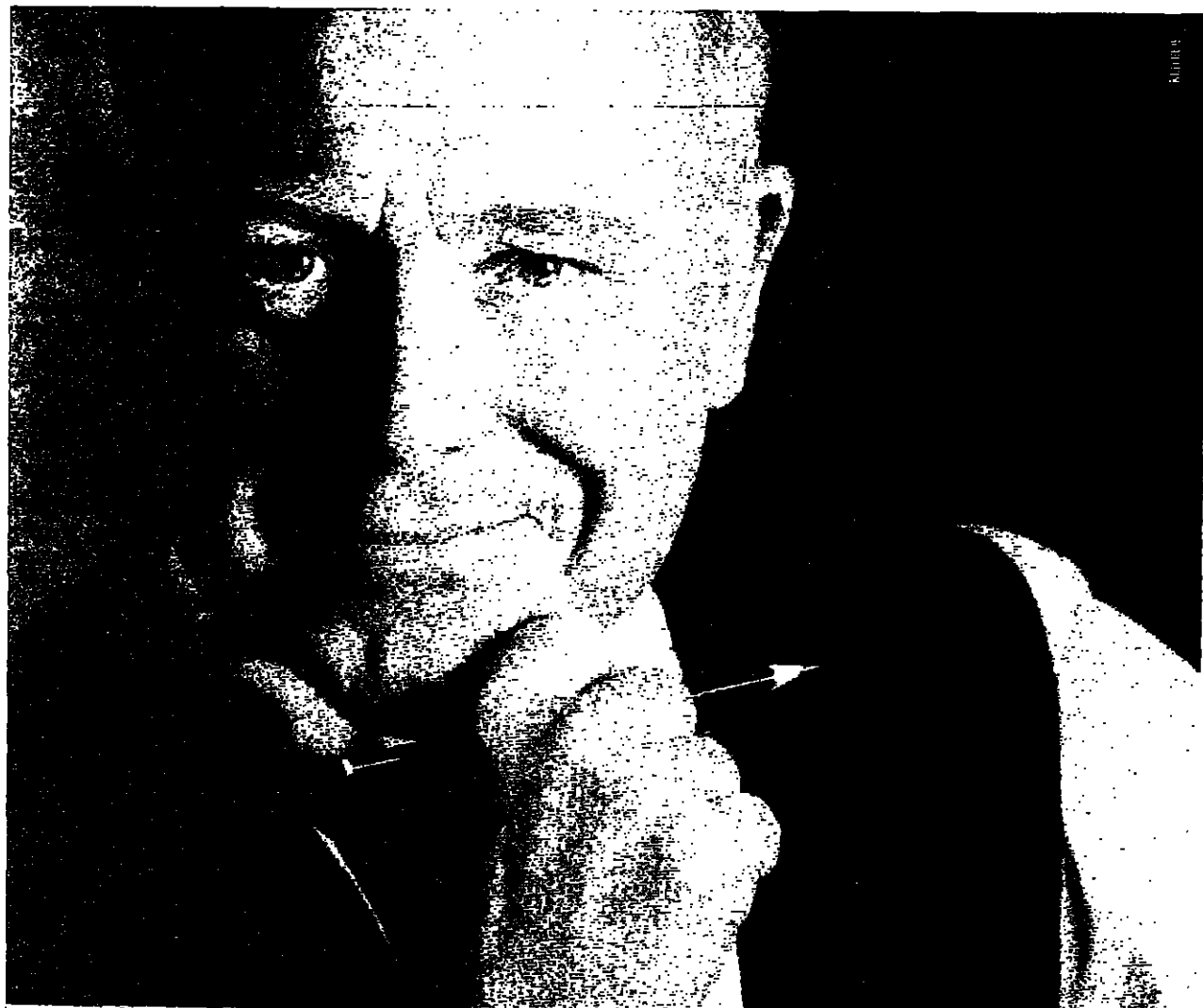
HAVE THE TABLES TURNED IN YOUR SCHOOLS' FAVOUR?

In the week when the school performance tables are released, The Times Educational Supplement publishes a special 56-page supplement giving all the figures you need. As well as the fullest results, including GCSE, A and AS levels, vocational qualifications and absence statistics, The TES provides the expert analysis so vital in understanding just what these results mean.

The TES At your newsagent. Friday.



YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT



Stay in style.
And stay in budget.

Gatwick Heathrow Manchester Reading
and more than 70 hotels worldwide

Ramada Hotels

150 من الامل

Scent of an airline

EVER stepped on to a British Airways aircraft and noticed (delete where necessary) a pleasant-scented perfume? Well, BA wants to "create" a bouquet of its own that users will immediately associate with the world's favourite airline and which BA will sell commercially. After all, the Football Association has a range of toiletries and fashion houses named after them. Now BA is thinking about doing the same. "We are not talking about capturing the smells of flying," a BA spokeswoman says, "but we are talking to the best noses in the world to see if we can capture the essence of the airline in a perfume." Meanwhile, in its search for "all the perfumes of Arabia..." BA staff and passengers are being asked "what does BA smell like?" City Diary welcomes suggestions, on a postcard, for a name should the fragrance ever take off.

Harry's game

ALGY CLUFF is more than usually chuffed. He says I may quote him as announcing to the world (and, if necessary, to the Stock Exchange) "another increased production from Cluff". No, not from one of his many gold mining operations in Africa, but by his charming wife Blondel, who Algy is pleased to tell me is two months pregnant. Parenthood obviously becomes the man. Algy — Stowe, Army officer who saw service in West Africa, Cyprus and Malaysia, and whose entry in *International Who's Who* lists only his clubs and not his recreations — now seems to have taken up football "Half true," he says. "I kick a football around with my first born, Harry, who turns two on December 30".

Taking care

DAVID BUTLER, 25 years a Treasury man, and latterly four years Director, National Savings, has come out



of early retirement. Having cared for the nation's savings, he is now going to care for the cars. Butler has been named successor to Dr Elizabeth Nelson who retires at the end of the year as chief executive of The Princess Royal Trust — whose primary objective is the needs of nearly 7 million people who look after the elderly, the disabled or the long-term sick at home. The trust, of which the Princess Royal has been president since 1991, holds a BS 5750 registration, which signals to corporate donors that the trust is indeed trustworthy and donations reach their intended cause.

Old pals

THE 3i Old Boys Club, aka 3i Nexus, which was set up by John (now Lord) Cuckney in the 1980s when he saw how venture capital was increasingly being colonised by ex-3iers, held a reunion dinner recently. The chairs simply groaned with alumni. Robert Smith, head of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell's development capital business, Derek Sach, Royal Bank of Scotland, Robert Drummond, ex-Grosvenor, and Paul Whitney, ex-CIN head and now with NatWest Asset Management, were there. A 1970s performance appraisal on Smith was read out. "Robert needs to use his time more carefully" and "Robert has an individualistic style".

COLIN CAMPBELL



Staff are being asked to help to capture the essence of BA

Middle-class with spouse and house bear brunt of tax rise

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY

MIDDLE-CLASS married couples have suffered far more from Government tax policies than is generally appreciated. A Times analysis shows how much more tax married couples are likely to pay in the last year of the present parliament than if ministers had stuck to the tax structure announced just before the last general election by Norman Lamont.

The figures, summarised in the table, look at the proportions of gross income taken by income tax and National Insurance contributions from married couples at various levels of earnings. The "extra tax" line shows how much more tax each couple is likely to pay next year than if the Government had kept the tax structure that helped it to win the election. Dividing this number by the income each couple has in the standard-rate tax band gives the cut in the

CUTS NEEDED TO RESTORE MARRIED COUPLES' TAX TO 1992 LEVELS

	1992/93	1996/97	1992/93	1996/97	1992/93	1996/97	1992/93	1996/97
A Gross earnings	15,565	18,106	17,395	20,167	31,463	34,692	52,185	60,501
B Income Tax and NI	2,882	4,381	3,504	5,103	7,128	8,854	16,004	20,185
C Tax as % of earnings	18.5	24.2	20.1	25.3	22.7	25.5	30.7	33.4
D Extra tax relative to earnings	-	1,031	-	1,049	-	971	-	1,633
E Income in standard-rate tax band	-	11,119	-	13,190	-	20,718	-	21,923
F Cut required in standard rate: (E as % of D)	-	9.3p	-	8.0p	-	4.7p	-	7.4p

standard rate that the Chancellor would have to make to put each couple where they were in 1992.

The calculations for 1996-97 assume that all personal allowances and tax bands will be adjusted in the Budget by 3.9 per cent, the inflation rate in the year to September. They also assume that national average earnings rise by 3.25 per cent in the year to April 1996. All figures also assume that the

taxpayer has a mortgage of £30,000 or more.

The figures show that, without any further changes in next week's Budget, all categories of middle-class couples will pay substantially higher shares of their income in tax than in 1992-93. For most groups, the proportionate rise in taxes amounts to about £1,000 a year — before higher indirect taxes, such as on fuel. The figures show that cuts

in the standard rate of income tax would do little to restore middle-class couples' loss. This is because the standard rate applies to only part of every taxpayer's income.

The relative unimportance of the standard rate is also indicated by the fact that middle-class taxes have risen sharply since 1992 even though the standard rate has not been changed. Instead of raising the politically sensitive

headline tax rate, the Government has cut the value of marriage allowances and mortgage tax relief, as well as raising National Insurance contributions by a full point and failing to index personal allowances. The result has been to load a disproportionate share of the tax increases on married couples and homeowners — precisely the "Middle England" groups the Tories are now trying to woo.

Dublin urged to back Irish Steel subsidy

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

THE Irish Government must use "both barrels" against British Steel's (BS) attempt to block a deal central to the privatisation of Irish Steel (IS), the Republic of Ireland's only steelmaker, according to Richard Armistead, the IS chief executive.

BS has secured solid backing from the British Government for its campaign to halt the deal on the grounds that it involves a £27.5 million subsidy as part of the sale to Ispat International, an Indian-owned steel group that has agreed to make a £25 million capital expenditure and assume £19 million of debt.

Brian Moffat, BS chairman and chief executive, said last week that state aid to IS had cost the Irish taxpayer £1 million a month and he saw no reason why a company with such a track record should receive more subsidy. BS argues that more sub-

sidy to IS would be illegal under the European Steel Aid code and that subsidies would threaten UK jobs. Tim Eggar, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, vetoed agreement to the IS deal at a meeting of European industry ministers earlier this month, casting the only vote against the project.

In the Irish Parliament last Thursday, Pat Rabbitte, the Minister for Commerce, noted speculation in the UK media that the approval of the IS package would lead to the closure of BS's plant at Shelton, near Stoke on Trent, but said such an idea was a "fallacy".

He said the Irish Government would continue to try to persuade the UK Government of the desirability of the deal.

Mr Eggar and Mr Bruton are scheduled to hold more discussions on the issue tomorrow.



Brian Moffat, head of British Steel, argues more subsidy to Irish Steel would be illegal

Profitable customers 'may escape bank fees'

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

BANKS could start to discriminate against customers who fail to buy products such as life assurance, pensions or mortgages from them, a new report says. Customers regarded as "profitable" could be treated more favourably than others and might find

fees such as overdraft charges waived, it suggests.

Mintel, the market researcher, says implementation of customer information systems which pool information held on personal banking customers would help determine how valuable a customer is before penalising them. A spokesman said: "Bank charges might not therefore be applied to overdrawn customer accounts as a matter of course. They will be able to apply more discretion and reward those they assess as profitable. This raises the question of whether customers will feel obliged to put all their eggs in one basket to get the best deal from their banks."

The British Bankers' Association said yesterday charges were at the discretion of individual banks and customers should "shop around for the whole package" before deciding where to bank.

Graeme Jacobs, money editor of *Which?*, said: "We do not know whether this policy is going to be introduced, but customers do not need to buy other products from the same bank to get a good deal. It is possible to completely avoid overdraft fees by switching. One-stop shops for a number of financial products might appear hassle-free, but you may not always be getting the most competitive rates."

CHANGE ON WEEK



US dollar
1.5516 (-0.0239)
German mark
2.1784 (-0.0482)
Exchange index
82.3 (-1.5)
Bank of England official base (Aprm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2638.9 (+62.6)
FT-SE 100
3609.2 (+85.8)
New York Dow Jones
4989.95 (+119.58)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
18151.16 (+307.80)

Romania launches bourse

The Romanian national stock exchange will open for the first time today with 12 companies being traded, 11 of which are state controlled.

The companies quoted embrace a range of industries including furniture, medical supplies and engineering products. The only completely private company, from Transylvania, specialises in the manufacture of disposable syringes and needles. Procedures have been established for dealings in government bonds, but trading will not start in the foreseeable future.

Short-term treasury bills are traded through the Romanian national bank. The stock exchange will start with one trading session per week, increasing as more companies are listed.

About 50 brokerage companies have been authorised by the Romanian Securities Commission. The Romanian stock exchange has been assisted by the British Know-how Fund, the United States Agency for International Development and the Canadian Overseas Assistance Programme.

Dyson deal

Dyson, a small British company, has won £30 million worth of orders from Japan for its vacuum cleaners that do not use bags. It is the largest European deal of its kind and will lift Japanese imports of domestic electrical goods fivefold.

TDI bus boost

TDI, an American company, is buying British Transport Advertising's bus interests from Maiden Outdoor. The deal lifts TDI's share of all bus advertising in Britain to 61 per cent with advertising space on 22,500 buses covering 75 per cent of the population.

ABI warning

The Association of British Insurers yesterday promised to fight any rise in the rate of insurance premium tax on non-life policyholders. The move is rumoured to be part of the forthcoming Budget.

Boston, Lincs. or Boston, Mass.

Wherever a customer goes bust, our policy pays your claim within 30 days.

Coface LBF

Don't sign until we've quoted.
Ask a credit broker for details or call 0171 325 7629



LESS OF A BEATING WITH OUR CLUB

The Admiral's Club at Heathrow provides a welcome break for our First and Business Class passengers. Here, you can unwind with some of our special facilities, such as showers, massage chairs, complimentary refreshments and drinks. Or you can keep things rolling at the Club's business centre, which offers meeting facilities, fax and free local calls — all in the comfort of your own private lounge. Fly with us in comfort on our 22 non-stop flights to the Arabian Gulf every week, enjoying a host of special services, and discover our own special style of traditional hospitality. Gulf Air. Come aboard for a world of difference.

GULFAIR طيران الخليج
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ROUTES AND SERVICES, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT OR GULF AIR
LONDON RESERVATIONS 0171 408 1717, SALES 0171 411 4440; MANCHESTER RESERVATIONS 0800 262972/0800 269171/4370100.

Crises of faith and matters beyond belief

A curious spiritual journey was at the heart of Jimmy McGovern's *Priest* on Saturday night (BBC2). Greg (Linus Roache), a gay minister, starts off as a man full of idealism, who sensibly reads *The Times*. He preaches to the congregation about individual responsibility. "There is just sin," he says, his eyes wide with certainty. Meanwhile, his fellow priest Matthew (Tom Wilkinson, with doggy scouse accent) subscribes to *The Guardian*. In fact, it is clear that Matthew has been reading that newspaper far too long, and it has led him into strange, irrelevant ways: he cohabits with Cathy Tyson, imports guitar music into services, and uses the word "lick" in sermons.

So what of Greg's spiritual journey? Well, it is a case of trendier-than-thou. When Greg's sex life is exposed, and his faith left him down in other departments, he attempts suicide (feebly) and

then crawls back to be forgiven. Conveniently, he embraces relativism ("Let him who is without sin cast the first stone") — which is a bit rich surely, and rather destroys the point of being a priest. Naturally, one feels sorry for him (as a chap). He sobs openly in Communion, to the tune of that old scouse tear-jerker, *You'll Never Walk Alone*. But as a priest, he should pull himself together. Above all, he should defy rival newspapers, when their weasel words tempt him from the true path.

Varieties of flawed belief were everywhere on television this weekend. In an excellent *Equinox* (Channel 4) last night, we met the world-class physicists who believe they are modern-day priests, interpreting the quantum mysteries of the universe. Daily they confront the interesting idea that God, in the beginning, created matter and anti-matter and a few laws of physics, and then pushed it all off

into space saying "Goodbye — and good luck". Then the last of Angus Deayton's *Three Men in a Boat* (BBC1) comes along, and defies you to believe in it for more than 30 seconds together. You remember how Alice was instructed to try believing six impossible things before breakfast? *The Final Cut* is like that. The press conferences, the parliamentary speeches, Geoff

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

frey Boza Pitt (or "Sooty") as Foreign Secretary — not only is it all preposterous, but its preposterousness, fatally, fails to entertain. Even Tom Makepeace's front door elicited a scoff from me. "That front door is a travesty!" There is no critical precedent for such an observation.

More in sorrow than anger, one strains to hear the clear delirious bell-tones of *House of Cards* and *To Play the King*. But the characteristic sound of *The Final Cut* is a dull, flat "dink". This is not the true metal. Nothing about *The Final Cut* bears resemblance to dramatic terms, or realistic ones, having long since exhausted hope for the chessy plot. I wonder why I am still watching. Isla Blair's ample breasts are nothing to me, although I'm quite keen on her earrings. It is pure faith, I suppose: faith that the old *House of Cards* spirit will miraculously pierce the bluntness and save the day.

But I am a sad case. I admit that. Meanwhile it must be said that Ian Richardson and Diane Fletcher carry off their Shakespearean duties with dignity, refusing to acknowledge how low the surrounding landscape has sunk. Their consolation must surely be that, pretty soon, Birmann Wood will come to Dunsinane, and do us all a favour.

High point of the weekend was BBC2's *Tx* on Saturday — the beautifully made *Hustlers, Hoaxsters, Pranksters, Jokesters and Riky Jay*. This was the first ever arts programme to be devoted to a man who shuffles cards, and it showed that despite the evidence of *The Final Cut*, overt deception can still be extremely diverting.

Riky Jay is properly called a prestidigitator, meaning literally a person with nimble fingers; but that's like saying Edward Scissorhands is sharp. Jay is steeped in ancient trickery. He demands respect, and gets it (he's quite scary). Puffing and poring, he sorts, fans, cuts, streams and thumps the cards, and performs jaw-dropping miracles, including the vanishing of a diamond. No one should ever play *Hunt the Lady* with this man.

Finally, Friday night comedy took a strange turn this week with TTV joining the fray (*Faith in the Future*, starring Lynda Bellingham and Julia Sawalha) and BBC2 unveiling *Coogan's Run* — a series of comedy dramas for Steve Coogan. I shall return to *Coogan's Run* another week, meanwhile *Faith in the Future* is a middle-aged romance comedy, in which a grown-up woman gets all confused and unnecessary when confronted by the prospect of sex. Her name, of course, is Faith — which is, I think, where we came in.

Maureen Lipman already went through this sex dilemma in *Agony Again*, and displayed a rather touching vulnerability about it. But Bellingham is not worried about getting hurt, she is here to remind us that the situation is just jolly awkward, he ho, and thus co-opts the problem through tackling the washing. "How do we undo this?" she demands, snuffing on the bed in the dark. "You don't," says her bemused boyfriend, "that's the mattress."

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (36730)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94448575)
- 9.10 Kilroy (s) (4071843)
- 10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (5435594)
- 10.05 **NEW** Can't Cook, Won't Cook. Ainsley Harriot challenges two hopeless cooks to create a family favourite (s) (9988402)
- 10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (45310)
- 12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9430846)
- 12.05pm Pebble Mill (s) (5085594)
- 12.50 Regional News and weather (23023846)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (15198)
- 1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (25268285)
- 1.55 Knots Landing (s) (5466391)
- 2.40 The Clothes Show (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2210001)
- 3.05 Incognito (s) (1834759)
- 3.30 Philbert the Frog (s) (6725469)
- 3.35 Oakie Doke (s) (5535643)
- 3.45 Dear Mr. Brown (s) (5555407)
- 4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks (r) (2103575)
- 4.15 Phantom 2040 (Ceefax) (s) (6068310)
- 4.35 Grange Hill (r) (Ceefax) (s) (1689933)
- 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (6183338)
- 5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (5297440)
- 5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (428594)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (223)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazine (575)
- 7.00 Telly Addicts. Noel Edmonds presents the television trivia quiz show. (Ceefax) (s) (5440)
- 7.30 Watchdog. Consumer magazine presented by Anne Robinson (Ceefax) (s) (759)



Adam Woodyett and Gillian Telford (8.00pm)

- 8.00 EastEnders. Peggy is delighted about Kathy's pregnancy, but Cindy is reacting to the news. (Ceefax) (s) (1488)
- 8.30 The Thin Blue Line: Fire and Terror starring Rowan Atkinson, Kevin Allen and Mira Awan. Comedy series set in a small police station. (Ceefax) (s) (3223)
- 9.00 A Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party (Ceefax) (533555)
- 9.05 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (73733)
- 9.40 **NEW** Panorama: An interview with the Princess of Wales. (Ceefax) (652082)
- 10.40 Chiffi. The Big Cheese. Aerobic with Lenny Henry and Caroline Lee Johnson. (r) (Ceefax) (s) (830718)
- 10.55 Chiffi. 10.20 Children in Need 10.25 Dez Raz 10.55 Chiffi 11.25 Film 95 with Barry Norman 11.55-1.35am Film: Travelling Man
- 11.10 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Tonight's reviews include the 17th James Bond adventure GoldenEye. (Ceefax) (s) (682440)
- 11.40 FILM: Travelling Man (1989) starring John Lithgow, Jonathan Silverman, Margaret Colin, John Glover and Chynna Phillips. A top travelling salesman teamed up with an unscrupulous newspaper. The daily misery of a competitive job is compounded by his partner's doctoring of the accounts, but relief arrives in the form of a distracting female. Directed by Irvin Kershner (530914) 1.20am Weather (319812)

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA** As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (944225) 1.25 Home and Away (944225) 1.50 A Country Practice (2521372) 2.25-3.30 Blue Heelers (703722) 3.55-4.55 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722) 4.30-4.45 The Bill (703722) 4.45-5.00 The Bill (703722) 5.00-5.15 The Bill (703722) 5.15-5.30 The Bill (703722) 5.30-5.45 The Bill (703722) 5.45-6.00 The Bill (703722) 6.00-6.15 The Bill (703722) 6.15-6.30 The Bill (703722) 6.30-6.45 The Bill (703722) 6.45-7.00 The Bill (703722) 7.00-7.15 The Bill (703722) 7.15-7.30 The Bill (703722) 7.30-7.45 The Bill (703722) 7.45-8.00 The Bill (703722) 8.00-8.15 The Bill (703722) 8.15-8.30 The Bill (703722) 8.30-8.45 The Bill (703722) 8.45-9.00 The Bill (703722) 9.00-9.15 The Bill (703722) 9.15-9.30 The Bill (703722) 9.30-9.45 The Bill (703722) 9.45-10.00 The Bill (703722) 10.00-10.15 The Bill (703722) 10.15-10.30 The Bill (703722) 10.30-10.45 The Bill (703722) 10.45-11.00 The Bill (703722) 11.00-11.15 The Bill (703722) 11.15-11.30 The Bill (703722) 11.30-11.45 The Bill (703722) 11.45-12.00 The Bill (703722) 12.00-12.15 The Bill (703722) 12.15-12.30 The Bill (703722) 12.30-12.45 The Bill (703722) 12.45-1.00 The Bill (703722) 1.00-1.15 The Bill (703722) 1.15-1.30 The Bill (703722) 1.30-1.45 The Bill (703722) 1.45-2.00 The Bill (703722) 2.00-2.15 The Bill (703722) 2.15-2.30 The Bill (703722) 2.30-2.45 The Bill (703722) 2.45-3.00 The Bill (703722) 3.00-3.15 The Bill (703722) 3.15-3.30 The Bill (703722) 3.30-3.45 The Bill (703722) 3.45-4.00 The Bill (703722) 4.00-4.15 The Bill (703722) 4.15-4.30 The Bill (703722

DTI set to rule on PowerGen and NatPower bids



Lang: decision imminent

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

A DECISION by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, over whether PowerGen's £1.95 billion bid for Midlands Electricity and National Power's £2.8 billion offer for Southern Electric should proceed without a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is expected shortly, possibly within days.

It is understood that John Bridgeman, Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading, forwarded his recommendations regarding the two takeover bids to Mr Lang towards the end of last week. Professor Stephen Littlechild, Director-Gen-

eral of Offer, is widely believed to be opposed to both deals and communicated his views to the Office of Fair Trading earlier this month.

The DTI confirmed yesterday that Mr Lang had received the DTI's recommendations but was unable to comment on the timing of any statement. City analysts believe that Mr Lang's announcement is unlikely to coincide with the Budget, due on November 28, and may, therefore, be made later this week.

Although the City is uncertain as to Mr Bridgeman's perspective, it does not expect Mr Lang to frustrate the two bids, particularly in view of the fact that the Government has already

waved through a series of takeovers in the electricity sector, including Hanson's £2.5 billion bid for Eastern Group.

Although Mr Lang may choose to refer the bids to the Monopolies & Mergers Commission it is thought that such a decision would seriously hamper the Government's ambitions to privatise British Energy, the nuclear power holding company, before the next general election.

Professor Littlechild has already argued that consumers' interests may not be best served if PowerGen's and NatPower's bids are allowed to proceed without certain safeguards. Both bids involve the acquisition of a

Rec by a generating company, but a recent precedent was established when Scottish Power was permitted to acquire Marweb.

City analysts also argue that PowerGen has already sought to fend off criticism by the revelation with last week's interim results that it has agreed terms of a £450 million disposal of two coal-fired power stations to Hanson's Eastern Group.

Although both PowerGen and NatPower have given undertakings to Professor Littlechild that they will sell certain power stations by the end of 1995, NatPower is not expected to complete its disposal plans before next March. Given this delay, Mr

Lang may attach conditions to any approval he may give to NatPower's current bid for Southern Electric.

The frenetic pace of mergers within the utilities sector has stirred up heated political and consumer debate. Jack Cunningham, Labour trade and industry spokesman, urged last month that the MMC "must be used to safeguard the national and consumer interest. If not, a Labour Government will make a retrospective reference."

The National Consumer Council said that "the case for each electricity bid to be referred to the MMC becomes every more pressing as takeover frenzy gathers momentum."

Price set for ENI shares offering

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE
CORRESPONDENT

LAMBERTO DINI, the Italian Prime Minister, has thrown his full weight behind the privatisation of ENI, the eighth largest oil and gas group in the world, whose sale starts tomorrow.

The first tranche of the huge industrial group is set to raise at least 6,300 billion lire (£2.8 billion).

On immediate offer is 15 per cent of the company, but there is a "green shoe" facility which will allow this to be increased to 17.25 per cent of the equity. This represents the largest share offer to date by a European company, taking into account that purchases will involve a single payment, rather than instalments. ENI's offer for sale price was set over the weekend at L5,250 a share, at the bottom end of the guideline range.

Signor Dini, determined to force Italy's privatisation programme back on track after a series of political and financial setbacks, said in Rome on Saturday: "We decided not to push the price because we want it to be a success."

Reducing the Government's huge deficits is a central aspect of Mr Dini's policy and is integral to Italy's approach towards European economic integration.

With the privatisation of Enel, the power utility, and Stet, the communications holdings group, scheduled for next year, a successful flotation of ENI is perceived as crucial. The group, whose subsidiaries include Enichem, Italy's leading chemicals company, and Agip, the oil and gas exploration and production company, achieved a net profit of L3,200 billion last year on sales of L50,700 billion.

ENI has been dogged in recent years by corruption scandals. Gabriele Cagliari, the former chairman, committed suicide in jail in 1993. Enrico Mattei, the effective founder of the modern company, died in an air crash in 1962, in what many people still regard as suspicious circumstances.

Share trading is due to commence in Milan, London and New York on November 28. Between 25 and 50 per cent is earmarked for Italian retail investors, but any European Union citizen with an Italian bank account can buy shares.

Crisis talks at C&W to heal rift

BY SARAH BAGNALL

A series of high-level emergency meetings will take place at Cable and Wireless today in a bid to resolve a leadership crisis.

The emergence of a damaging rift between Lord Young of Graffham, executive chairman, and James Ross, chief executive, has forced the company's non-executive directors to convene in London to try to reach a compromise between the two parties.

One senior C&W director told *The Times*: "In theory, the combination of David Young and James Ross is a dream ticket for C&W. David is well connected, influential and energetic while James is a strong, disciplined manager who can deliver. The problem is there is no clear single point of authority and that is confusing and damaging for the group." A source close to the company agreed: "The difficulty is that with an executive chairman and a chief executive it has never been clear which one is in control."

At 10.30am today many of C&W's five non-executive directors, led by Win Bischoff, the influential chairman of Schroders, the merchant

banking group, will meet with four executive directors. Ulrich Hartmann, chairman of Veba, the German telecoms group, which is C&W's largest shareholder with a 10.5 per cent stake, is expected to miss the meeting but is flying over in time for a gathering later today of all the non-executive directors. It is hoped by the non-executives that this second meeting will produce a resolution to the crisis.

C&W is at a crossroads in its history but is seen by institutions to have an inappropriate management structure and a lack of clarity over strategic direction. According to Mr Ross's supporters, the problem is that Lord Young tends to deviate from the board's agreed strategy of concentrating on developing C&W's presence in Europe, Asia and America. But Lord Young, a former cabinet minister, has struck small deals in places such as Latvia, Israel and Kazakhstan.

The confusing message this sends to investors and middle management is evidenced by a recent survey of the company's top 400 managers. This found that 90 per cent said

C&W did not have a clear strategy. A C&W executive director said: "It is this lack of clarity of the implementation of the strategy we have all agreed which has been troubling us. If he is to continue as chairman, David has to stop interfering with the day-to-day management."

In a bid to head off the crisis, the company announced last week that Lord Young was to retire on his 65th birthday in February 1997. What was not disclosed was the fact that the non-executives had informed Mr Ross that his departure would precede that of Lord Young. This outcome was considered unworkable by Mr Ross, who requested the non-executives to find an alternative plan.

One source said he thought the outcome was unlikely to be the departure of Lord Young as his loss would be too damaging. "Lord Young is an opener of doors, politically well connected and adept and has the stature and status to get C&W into places it would not have without him."

While the immediate departure of Mr Ross is not ruled out, it is thought less likely than another compromise. One possible outcome is that Lord Young takes more of a back seat by moving to non-executive status.

Graham Searjeant, page 42



Happier days: James Ross, chief executive, left, with Lord Young before the public rift emerged

Pension trustees told to use vote

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE powerful National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF), whose members are responsible for £300 billion of assets, has called on pension fund trustees to vote on all issues at company meetings.

In a briefing published today, the NAPF tells its members that voting is not only a shareholder's responsibility but also an opportunity to improve corporate govern-

ance. Institutional shareholders have been criticised for not exercising their voting rights to veto controversial issues such as three-year rolling contracts for directors and lucrative executive share option schemes that have aroused such public and parliamentary anger.

Ann Robinson, Director-General of the NAPF, whose members provide occupa-

tion pension schemes for seven million employees, said: "Pension funds own more than a third of the ordinary shares in UK quoted companies. Many major investing institutions are now showing a voluntary commitment to the concept of regular voting, but more needs to be done."

The NAPF's new guidelines are not compulsory on the grounds that such a move

would be "unlikely to result in responsible voting".

Annual and extraordinary meetings, such as those of British Gas and WPP, have proved to be battlegrounds over executive salaries, pensions and share option packages. Often the most vocal opponents have been private shareholders who are easily outvoted by the major institutions.

Pay protest is looming

Vauxhall offer facing rejection

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

VAUXHALL car workers are expected to vote today for industrial action over pay as a new independent report claims that wage settlements are bunched at 3 to 4 per cent — well below the pay offer already rejected by leaders of Ford's 22,000 manual workers.

Leaders of the main unions in the motor industry are expected to announce today that Vauxhall manual workers have voted substantially for industrial action against the company's two-year pay offer. The unions are likely to press Vauxhall for more talks, particularly because its offer is worth less than the Ford offer already rejected by the unions. The TGWU transport union and AEEU engineering union are expected to try to use both sets of talks to press the two companies into similar deals.

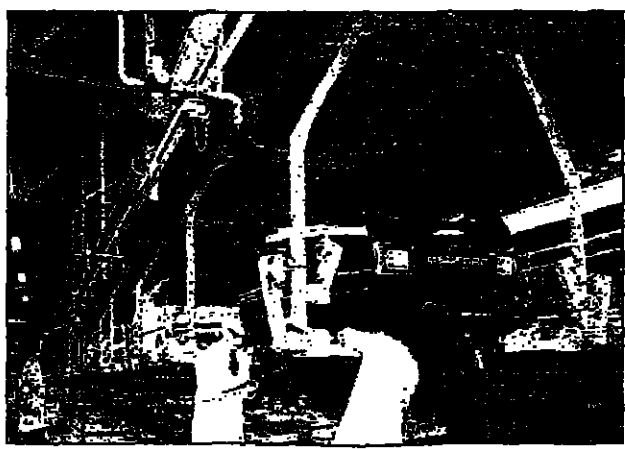
Ford union leaders will meet plant officials this week before talks with the company follow-

ing their rejection last week of a 9.75 per cent two-year pay and conditions package. Ford's offer, which the company says is final, led immediately to unofficial strikes at its Dagenham and Southampton car and van assembly plants.

Leaders of Ford's unions are expected to urge the company at this week's renewed talks for some movement on working time. As part of their claim for a 10 per cent pay rise, the company's unions are seeking a cut in the working week from 39 hours to 37.

Both Ford and Vauxhall will emphasise that their offers are well above inflation.

A pay report today from Incomes Data Services, the independent wage analyst, is likely to be cited by Ford and Vauxhall. IDS says that settlements are bunched in a narrower range of 3 to 4 per cent this autumn, after a wider range earlier this year.



Vauxhall workers may now take industrial action

Labour 'no longer feared'

City investors in UK property no longer fear a Labour government according to a survey commissioned by English & Overseas Properties.

Not one of the 50 respondents said they thought a Labour government would be worse than a Conservative government for property. 26 per cent believe it would be better and 74 per cent thought it would make no difference.

Barings fund

BARINGS's asset management arm today becomes the second City house after GT to launch an Africa fund within a matter of days.

The Barings Simba fund, which will have warrants attached and will be listed on the London Stock Exchange, is to be capped at \$100 million.

Tax warning

Ministers should radically simplify the tax system before proceeding with self assessment for nine million taxpayers, Ernst & Young, accountants, says today.

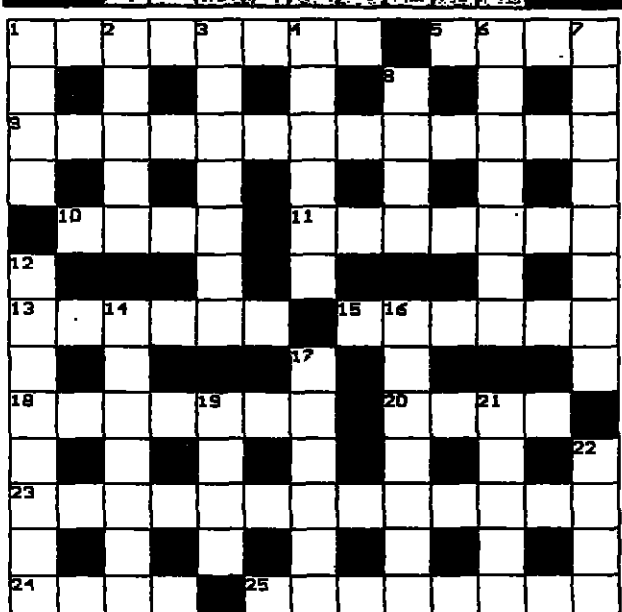
The firm argues in a report that the tax system has become more complex in successive Budgets, reversing an earlier trend.

It accuses the Inland Revenue of being "more concerned with perceived avoidance and meeting its government-set timescale than in genuine two-way consultation".

Deal brewing

Pubmaster, a UK independent pub operator, is buying ten pubs from Whitbread, lifting its estate to more than 1,700. The deal follows last month's £12 million purchase of 137 pubs from Whitbread.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 631

ACROSS

- 1 Kipling's better man than I am (5,3)
- 5 Of smaller quantity (4)
- 9 For ages past (4,3,2,4)
- 10 Join as one (4)
- 11 Tonic (speech) setting tone (7)
- 13 Fighting bodies (6)
- 15 Cry of pig: inform (on) (6)
- 18 William —, Bible translator (7)
- 20 European mountain range (4)
- 23 To pontificate (3,4,3,3)
- 24 Soap bubbles (4)
- 25 Best clothes (4,4)

DOWN

- 1 Pluck; burns out (interior) (4)
- 2 "— is an Island" (Donne) (2,3)
- 3 One of Christ's chosen twelve (7)
- 4 Those admitted together (6)
- 6 Part of serial (7)
- 7 Without warning (8)
- 8 Dubious, chancy (4)
- 12 A sea-monster: Capt Nemo's submarine (8)
- 14 Wealthy (7)
- 16 Overturned (conviction) (7)
- 17 Doghouse (6)
- 19 Eagerly expectant (4)
- 21 A dance: sort of dot (5)
- 22 It used to be (poet.) (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 630

ACROSS: 4 Bible 7 Above all 8 File 9 Waverley 10 Sentry 13 Coyote 14 Tureen 15 Animal 18 Anatolia 19 Lily 20 In the way 21 Lyric

DOWN: 1 Facile 2 Foment 3 Leeway 4 Blue moon 5 Ballroom 6 Enzyme 11 Narrator 12 Rhetoric 14 Travel 15 Apache 16 In-laws 17 Allays

AKOM LTD IS NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TIMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AT STANDARD RETAIL PRICE — OFFER APPLIES UK ONLY.

SEND CHEQUES WITH ORDER PAYABLE TO AKOM LTD 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Delivery to 9 days. Tel. 0181-852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

DERIGO



From October 20th 1995

DE RIGO SpA (DER)

was listed on the New York Stock Exchange

De Rigo, the worldwide leader in designing, manufacturing and marketing of trendy high-quality sunglasses is glad to announce that the listing on NYSE was a considerable success.

We would like to thank everyone who, with discerning taste and... sight, has chosen the products from our collections POLICE, STING, Rolling, Lozza, Vogart, Charme, Old Italy and the other brands of our licence such as FENDI. Together we look forward to a sunny bright future.

DER
listed
NYSE

De Rigo
U.K.
The City of London

THE NEW WAY TO LOOK INTO THE WORLD.

WHICH CAME FIRST, THEN SEE THE CONNECTION.

will promote awareness of the essential contribution the countryside makes to our daily lives, both economically and socially. In short, it will start the process of rebuilding the understanding that used to exist between town and country. So that, in time, our children will have a better appreciation of what the countryside is all about. And, even if they never know which came first, they will know where the

chicken and the egg came from. If you believe that our countryside is an important educational issue, and that the five million or so people who live or work in the countryside deserve to have their voice heard, then demonstrate your support for The Countryside Movement. We welcome support from everyone,

wherever they may live, who recognises the countryside as our greatest national asset. Fill in the coupon or phone 0117 976 8900. There are no subscription fees. Just the right to make your voice heard.

TELEPHONE 0117 976 8900 OR POST THIS COUPON FOR
MORE INFORMATION ON THE COUNTRYSIDE MOVEMENT

MR/MRS/MS INITIALS SURNAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE

**COUNTRYSIDE
MOVEMENT** ♥

THE COUNTRYSIDE MOVEMENT, FREEPOST, ROOM T11, BRISTOL BS38 7HL.

PUTTING THE COUNTRY'S SIDE.



■ OPERA
David Atherton
stakes his claim
at the Coliseum
by conducting
Puccini's *Turandot*
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ DANCE
The Royal Ballet
pays tribute
to Stravinsky
in a mixed bill
including *Apollo*
OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday



■ FILM
New face, new
gadgets, but the
same pulling power:
Bond is back
in *Goldeneye*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ BOOKS
Times critics
present the
essential guide
to the best
Christmas reading
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEWS: Thurs, Sat

ARTS
TUESDAY TO
FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

In praise of beginners

Whitbread judge Rachel Cusk discusses the shortlist for this year's First Novel Award

How accurate a barometer of our times is the annual crop of first novels? If the air of distracted tolerance with which the literary community likes to receive its novitiates is anything to go by, not very. First novels are solipsistic, excitable, self-regarding: a child's party trick, an autobiography in fancy dress. Nobody, according to publishers and booksellers, is interested in first novels, aside from the novelist's friends and possibly their mothers. Even a very good one is rarely attributed with more merit than a clever opening gambit.

Should a writer be talented enough to produce a first novel similar to a better-known and preferably bestselling writer's books, then they can tag along, possibly with an endorsement from their "mentor" on the jacket; even if the similarity amounts to no more than that of age, race, gender or postcode.

All this would seem to suggest that there is no worse crime a first novelist can commit than originality. It also suggests that we are unadventurous readers; that, like children in restaurants,

we won't try anything new. The unknown arouses more suspicion than excitement in the literary world, and this is a shame because first novelists occupy a rare place in literature: outside it. Who better to tell us how the world is than those who live there? There comes a point in many writers' lives when this boundary grows alarmingly and surprisingly blurred; when, while one part of the brain writes the book, the other writes the review; when writing about writing begins to look like a good idea: when the readers appear to be in the next room, as trapping and maddening as a squalling baby.

The self-delight of the first novelist, the first-love enthusiasm with which they dance for

their audience, could and should exert the same fascination that novelists command in the rest of our lives. Until the time comes, however, when we all rush out to buy the latest first novel, as we would the latest domestic appliance, the Whitbread First Novel Award will remain the first novelist's lifejacket on the high seas of cultural indifference.

Hilary Mantel, Jason Cowley of the *Bookseller*, and I were this year's judges. Unlike the Booker Prize, where the judges are subjected to a form of literary aversion therapy by being forced to read every submission, we Whitbreaders are each sent a civilised third of a vetted list from which to choose two or three. My identification of literary trends must, then, be conducted from a sample, in the spirit of a MORI poll.

It is one of the advantages of our century that childhood and adolescence now possess a language all their own, and can be freely explored: not only as a narrative device, but as an emotional and psychological realm. This, along with a curious preponderance of astronauts — usually occurring simultaneously — was a recurrent theme in my batch, and many of the best examples of it focused on the relationship between young boys and their mothers. Stephen Jacob's *Going Naked* is the best *Disguise* and Stephen Blanchard's witty and poetic *Gagarin* and I are two excellent novels on this subject.

Scottish writing, that capacious pigeonhole, grows apace, and if young Scottish writers can escape the overarching presence of Irvine Welsh — and their publishers permit them to adopt a more freestanding position — they should find their own limelight soon enough. Alan Warner's *Morvern Callar* is surely one of the best novels of the year: the first 50 or so pages, describing the life of a young girl in a dilapidated port town in Scotland, are innovative and brilliant. Slightly further south, in Yorkshire, is Kate Atkinson, whom we all felt to be a great and exciting discovery. *Behind the Scenes at the Museum* is an epic comic novel, unusual in that it is a female history of the

century masquerading as a satirical family saga.

I was surprised by how few of the novels came from very young writers; and how few, too, were by women. Tania Glyde possesses both attributes, and her *Clever Girl* is an ingenious form of revenge against them. Many reviewers apparently found this novel insufferably nasty, which I believe is a compliment.

Samuel Lock, neither young nor female, but very funny, was another of my favourites. With *As Luck Would Have It*, he appears to have achieved what Flaubert only dreamt of: a book about absolutely nothing. The novel is, really, a joke; but it's a very good one.

Tormented by choice, we drew up our shortlist: Atkinson's *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*; Blanchard's *Gagarin* and I; and Warner's *Morvern Callar*. All of these novels deserve to be read; all of them tell us new things about the world; all of them, in however small a way, advance the craft they practise.

● The five Whitbread Award winners will be named on Jan 4. The Whitbread Book of the Year will be announced on Jan 23

Backstage in every concert hall this year should have hung the warning notice: "Politeness Paralyzes Purcell". Why? Well, the Friday and Saturday concerts in the Barbican's Purcell Weekend were not essentially different in format. Each presented a Purcell semi-opera with linking narration. Nor did they differ vastly in technical quality, for the Academy of Ancient Music (which did *The Indian Queen* on Friday) draws its players and singers from the same pool of accomplished period musicians as *The Sixteen* (which did *The Fairy Queen* on Saturday).

And yet the two evenings were remarkably different in atmosphere. The drama gripped in Harry Christophers' interpretation on Saturday, whereas Christopher Hogwood's Friday effort was neat, nice... and crashingly dull. Neither the skips and twirls of the New York Baroque Dance Company, nor the ebullient emoting of Si-

mon Russell Beale, reading Roger Savage's narration, could pump much spirit into this *Indian Queen*.

The difference a conductor makes

True, there was one sublime moment, when the soprano Catherine Bott delivered *They tell us that your mighty powers with rapturous delicacy*. And in *Come, Ye Sons Of Art*, the two counter-tenors, James Bowman and Robin Blaze, duetted stylishly in *Sound the trumpet*. But David Thomas's singing was relaxed to the point of coma; if Hogwood had really wanted the majestic *These are the sacred charms* to be crooned, he should have brought in Tony Bennett.

The joy of Christophers' *Fairy Queen* was that the conductor was alive to every instrumental felicity, every opportunity for nuance. With a phalanx of inventive continuo players, and with a stunning duo of recorders trilling and chirping on stage and off, the orchestral sound was a delight all night.

But so, too, were the vocal soloists. Lynda Russell summoned immaculate control for *The Plaine*; Richard Suart called on every funny walk in his repertoire to make the *Drunken Poet* slightly more amusing than usual; counter-tenor Michael Chance was grace personified; and there was much to admire from Paul Agnew and Simon Birchall.

Perhaps Jeremy Sams's script, spoken with zest by Penny Downie, strove too hard for funny lines. Those who write modern narrations should remember the first rule of newspaper sub-editors: cut the first and last paragraphs and all attempts at humour. However, nearly three hours zipped along — a tribute to the way the performance was paced and shaped.

And to Purcell's genius. Bereft of anything except cursory staging, these performances put the music under scrutiny. I marvelled once again at how, in the same piece, Purcell can dart back 60 years to the lamenting style of Monteverdi, then forward 30 years to the jaunty urbanity of Handel: how he can embrace the tuneful artlessness of folksong while executing sublime shifts of harmony that still astound the ear; how he shares Mozart's ability to be childlike and profoundly moving at the same time. This anniversary year has seen "Orpheus Britannicus" triumphantly rehabilitated in our national consciousness. Now we must make sure that he never slips into neglect again.

Royal National Theatre

Volpone

by Ben Jonson

"Michael Gambon... outrageously funny"
Sunday Telegraph

"Simon Russell Beale... excellent"
Independent on Sunday

Box Office 0171-928 2252
First Call 0171-420 0000

NT NATIONAL THEATRE

Olivier Theatre: Tonight, Tomorrow & Wed 22 Nov at 7.15pm & continuing in repertoire

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM TOURING OPERA

Verdi's COMIC OPERA Falstaff

"So fine and scintillating an achievement"

WED 22, THU 23, SAT 25, SUN 26 NOV & FRI 1 DEC, 7.30pm

BIRMINGHAM CIVIC THEATRE

WED 22 NOV 7.30pm

COVENTRY CONVENTRY THEATRE

WED 22 NOV 7.30pm

WARRICK ARTS CENTRE

MON 4 DEC 7.30pm

CAMBRIDGE CONTEMPORARY

SAT 9 DEC 7.30pm

CARLISLE SAMS CENTRE

THU 14 DEC 7.30pm

AMERSLEY SPORTS CENTRE

SAT 16 DEC 7.30pm

ALDERBURY CHAPEL

SUN 17 DEC 7.30pm

ALDERBURY CHAPEL

CHOPIN'S 'FUNERAL MARCH' SONATA IN B FLAT MINOR

Our guide to the best available recordings of classical music, presented in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

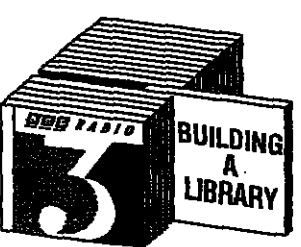
CHOPIN'S PIANO SONATA NO 2 IN B FLAT MINOR Reviewed by Stephen Plaistow

Everyone knows Chopin's *Funeral March*, even people who could not tell you it was part of his B flat minor Piano Sonata, or that it was Chopin who wrote it.

The *Funeral March* movement, the third, was written first, in 1837, and the other three followed two years later. Funeral marches (in all but name) crop up surprisingly often in his work, but perhaps the idea of building a sonata around one was inspired by Beethoven's example in his Sonata in A flat, Op 26, a work Chopin often played.

There are about 50 versions currently available and all the good ones see the *Funeral March* as the work's poetic centre, even if they have different ideas as to how slow a slow march should be. Rachmaninov's 1930 recording (RCA 09026 62533-2) is brisk and treats the dynamics very freely in the interests of "making something of the movement with the last part going off into the distance like a receding procession."

Many pianists have imitated him, as if feeling the need,



like him, to give this page a bit of treatment. But from what we know of Chopin's playing, he would have winced. A first-hand account describes the nocturne-like trio section as "a touchstone for recognising whether the performer is a poet or merely a pianist" and says Chopin's expression "never contradicted the character of the March".

Artur Schnabel's 1961 recording on RCA (RD 89812), slower than many in this movement, is faultless in this respect. Where others manufacture the poetry, he plucks it from the air.

Best among the old recordings is Cortot's 1933 version (EMI CZS 7 67359-2, six CDs, budget price). And if he plays

wrong notes, so what? The way he uses sound as a tool for musical precision is an object lesson.

The best pianists convey the concision with which Chopin's forms fit the ideas, as well as the way a movement will sometimes appear to be picking up unfinished business from the one before.

Among the most interesting musical thinkers I count Cortot's pupil Vlado Perlemuter (Nimbus NI 5038); Murray Perahia (Sony Classical MK 76242); Maurizio Pollini (DG 415 346-2); and Mitsuko Uchida (Philips 420 949-2). They make you experience the sonata as an extraordinary span, all of a piece.

Finest of all, though, is the interpretation by Mikhail Pletnev (Virgin Classics VC 5 45076-2, £12.95), the Russian whose capacity for transcendental virtuosity is without peer today. The disturbing force of this Sonata, a meditation on death and nothingness? — has seldom been captured so vividly on CD.

● Recommended recordings can be ordered from The Times CD Mail, 29 Pall Mall Deposits, Barby Road, London W10 6BL (freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk)

● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (3pm): Stravinsky's *Petrushka*

JOHN TAVENER

"If I had to recommend a single disc to convince anyone of the mastery of John Tavener, this would be it."

— Gramophone

"There is no finer disc than this to represent John Tavener as a choral composer."

— The Guardian

Innocence

World premiere recording

Westminster Abbey Choir conducted by Martin Neary

Available now at all good record stores

PURCELL MAKES A COMEBACK. LIVE.

THE PURCELL TERCENTENARY CONCERT LIVE FROM WESTMINSTER ABBEY ON RADIO 3 AND BBC2. TUESDAY AT 7.00PM.

Fairfax

□ Improving predictions of El Niño's effect □ Fallout from a dying star □ At last, the self-cleaning car windscreen



THIS has been a bumper year for tropical storms. In America, the hurricane season began early, on June 2, and storms followed one another at almost weekly intervals. Officially the season doesn't finish until the end of November, but with 19 hurricanes by the end of October it was already a record. The same applies in the Pacific, where tropical storms are called typhoons. Typhoon Angela, which caused huge destruction in the Philippines, was blowing at speeds of up to 140 mph even as its predecessor, Zack, was winding down in Vietnam. The names of the two typhoons make it clear that the meteorologists had run right through the alphabet and Angela — the 27th — meant starting again at the beginning. Why 1995 should have been a record year while 1994 was relatively calm could have something to do with the El Niño Southern Oscillation, which appears to have come to an end after several years. While the climatic effects of man-

Warm water storm signal

made global warming are still speculative, those of the El Niño are undoubted.

El Niño takes its name from a current that appears off Peru around Christmas, bringing bumper fish catches. Grateful fishermen named it El Niño, the baby, in honour of Christ's birth. But El Niño affects far more than the anchovy haul; in the past it has been blamed for droughts in Australia and Africa, the failure of the Indian monsoon and other extremes. The link between El Niño and tropical storms is still speculative,



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

but Dr John Laver of the Climate Prediction Centre of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration points out that El Niño years usually have few hurricanes, while non-El Niño years have more of them. This is paradoxical because the distinctive signal of El Niño is the warming of surface waters in the Pacific, and tropical storms feed off warm water, only losing

their power when they move inland. So the relationship is the reverse of what one might expect. Given the huge international

interest in global warming, which has yet to stick its head above the level of detectability, El Niño has been relatively neglected. This may be about to end, as scientists from 40 countries met in Washington earlier this month to endorse plans for an international research centre to study the phenomenon.

The centre, to be based in the US, would aim to refine models of El Niño and improve predictions of its effects. Jack Gibbons, President Clinton's science adviser and a co-host of the meeting, said that early predictions of a drought caused by El Niño in 1992 had helped farmers in Brazil to maintain production at near-normal levels, compared with 1987 when there was no warning and production fell by 85 per cent.

For the moment, the Climate Prediction Centre believes that El Niño anomalies have played themselves out, and will not be a major influence on winter temperatures. For the northern US that could mean a "near-normal winter, tending towards cold". Given that a lot of our weather finds its way across the Atlantic, we may face similar conditions.

Cosmic rays

THE supernova of 1006 must have been one of the most dramatic events in human history. It glowed as bright as a half moon, was visible in broad daylight, and lasted for two years before fading from view.

Now Japanese astronomers have examined the remnants of the supernova using the ASCA X-ray satellite and shown that the explosions of supernovae are the most likely cause of the cosmic rays which bombard the Earth.

Supernovae are stars that explode catastrophically. Among the material flung out are particles moving at close to the speed of light, accelerated by the shock wave of the explosion. These so-called cosmic rays were discovered when balloons were first sent high into the atmosphere more than 80 years ago.

Supernovae have long been suspects in the hunt for the source of cosmic rays. The Japanese

team, reporting in *Nature*, seems to have set any doubts at rest by studying the outer limbs of the 1006 supernova, and showing that the light emitted must be produced from electrons of astonishing high energy, by the process of synchrotron emission.

If electrons of these energies can be produced, there is no reason to doubt that other particles can as well. It looks as if the great mystery of cosmic rays is well on the way to solution.

Clear view

THE best inventions satisfy needs you never thought you had. Dr Adam Heller, of the University of Texas at Austin, has designed a self-cleaning windscreen. Simply leave your car outside in the sun for a couple of hours and all those irritating traffic smears will burn off.

The windscreen incorporates a layer of fine particles of titanium

dioxide, of the kind used in transparent sunscreens. The particles absorb ultraviolet light, and then act as catalysts in the destruction of any organic matter on the windscreen. The organics are broken up into simpler chemicals by the action of the sun and the catalyst, and are easily removed by the wipers.

The beauty of the invention is that it asks nothing of the car driver, but there are some snags. The difficult part is getting the titanium dioxide to stick to the windscreen without being inactivated by sodium ions from the glass. *Chemistry in Britain* reports that it can be done by picking the glass for half an hour in sulphuric acid at 500°C, but Dr Heller speculates that it might be easier to do it as part of the production process.

There is also a risk of increased reflection from the screen, but that could be avoided by incorporating a polarising film. The idea is not as mad as it sounds: a Japanese company, Toto, already makes photocatalytic tiles for hospitals which kill any bacteria landing on the tile surface.

Dogs on the scent of rescue and recovery

What could be more terrifying than to be trapped for days in total darkness under thousands of tons of rubble after an earthquake? If you had the good fortune to be rescued from such a dire situation the chances are that you would owe your life to a dog, and to the handler who trained it.

A new product from an American pharmaceutical company could ease the arduous process of training these dogs for their role in hunting out human bodies, dead and alive, after accidents and natural disasters. It has developed synthetic odours which it claims replicate the smell of human bodies both when under extreme stress and when dead and decomposing. In short, the scientists have bottled the terrible scents of fear and death.

If the synthetic smells prove as effective in real emergencies as they have in trials they should make life far more bearable for dog handlers. At present, real bodies are used to train search-and-rescue dogs. Cadavers are not only expensive (the pseudo smells will cost \$25 an ampoule) but also stink. Canine olfactory systems are highly sensitive, and the bottled scents, happily, cannot be detected by the human nose.

The bottled smells will also

Chemicals can harness the canine sense of smell for man's benefit, says
Quentin Letts

save time. To teach dogs the distinctive smell of a submerged body, for example, trainers have in the past had to use police divers. Now they will merely have to empty a capsule of the scent of a victim of drowning into a pool and introduce it to the dog.

Sigma Chemical Company already manufactures synthetic drug scents which some police dog handlers use to teach animals the smell of drugs. Its new range of smells include Pseudo Corpse, Pseudo Drowned Victim and Pseudo Distressed Body. The latter replicates the odour emitted by a human body as a result of adrenaline production and sweat in moments of anxiety and physical trauma.

For reasons of industrial confidentiality the company, based in St Louis, Missouri, will not disclose its methods. Patricia Carr, the company's director, says only that the characteristics of body smells

were turned into organic formulations. Several mixtures were made and then tested with high-powered liquid chromatography. Then the portions were tried out by experienced handlers and their dogs, and the less successful mixtures were eliminated. The samples were tested in blind searches and a fair level of success was recorded.

Dr Jonathan Arden, a New York pathologist, speculates that tissue from dead bodies is used in the manufacture of the synthetic scents. "A good organic chemist would probably be able to take decayed tissues from a body and analyse the components in order to reproduce them using chemicals," he said. "You would have to start with the real thing to be able to synthesise it."

Dr Arden explained that when the body starts to decompose, digestive enzymes begin eating away at the body cells and membranes. This process is known as autolysis. "A corollary of this is that outside bacteria are able to grow in the body unchecked," he says. "Some of the by-products of digestion are organic chemicals that are volatile and become very aromatic. They have characteristic odours, tending to be quite sharp and foul. To the human nose, these smell roughly the same all the time, but they undoubtedly vary with time."

Dr Arden added that although Sigma may have found one or two chemicals that capture the essence of the putrefaction process, it is likely that in real circumstances "a multitude" of chemicals are involved, giving off different smells. "That makes me think



To the rescue: German shepherds, left, at the Oklahoma bomb scene; Newfoundlands, top, work in water; other dogs specialise in caves and drugs

that it might be better to use real bodies for training dogs," said Dr Arden. "They will introduce the dogs to a wider range of stimuli."

Emergency rescue trainers are not 100 per cent convinced of the efficiency of the new synthetic scents, but many already use Sigma synthetic narcotics smells to train dogs to sniff out illegal drugs. The company's narcotic scents allowed officers to stop using

real drugs to train their dogs, which was beneficial since some unfortunate animals became hooked on the very drugs they were supposed to be helping to stop.

Sergeant Don Browning, dog training co-ordinator for the City of Oklahoma Police, believes the pseudo scents may have a use for young dogs. "We used Sigma's pseudo narcotic scents and found that they were useful mainly in the

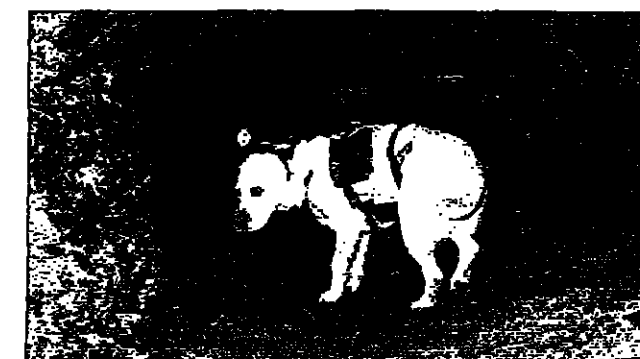
initial stages of a dog's training," he said. "Once we got the dogs on to actual narcotics, however, they had a hard time with the pseudo."

He is particularly interested in the "drowned victim" scent, citing the problems of recreating the scent of a drowned body. With the other scents, however, he said that recent advances meant that towels which had once been wrapped around dead bodies

could now be refrigerated and used as scent aids. Sometimes it was also possible to use teeth (acquired from the "pulled" pile of the local dentist) or human bones to train dogs.

Sergeant Browning has a pack of nine dogs, all German shepherds. His own two, Gunny and Arlo, aged four and seven respectively, were responsible for the rescue of 17 adults and the last three babies from the rubble of the

Oklahoma City bomb blast. Sergeant Browning, recalling that event, has no doubt that dogs are aware that human bodies smell differently depending on their circumstance, be it length of decomposition, or, with survivors, age. "With the babies we found, the dogs seemed to become specially intense," he said, "as though they knew the survivors underneath the rubble were very young."



**A full
£105 off
the full fare
to Portugal.**

That's £399 return from London Heathrow to Lisbon and Porto, if you stay 2 nights or longer. There's more. More room that is, with our **Middle Seat free***, room to enjoy the fabled Navigator service. With good food and wine you know it's the best deal flying.

Contact your travel agent or call:
0171 828 0262

100 AIR PORTUGAL
The best deal flying

*On Boeing 737 and Airbus A320

Make no mistake buying it.

It is a mobile phone. And you won't find a better way to buy one than through UniqueAir.

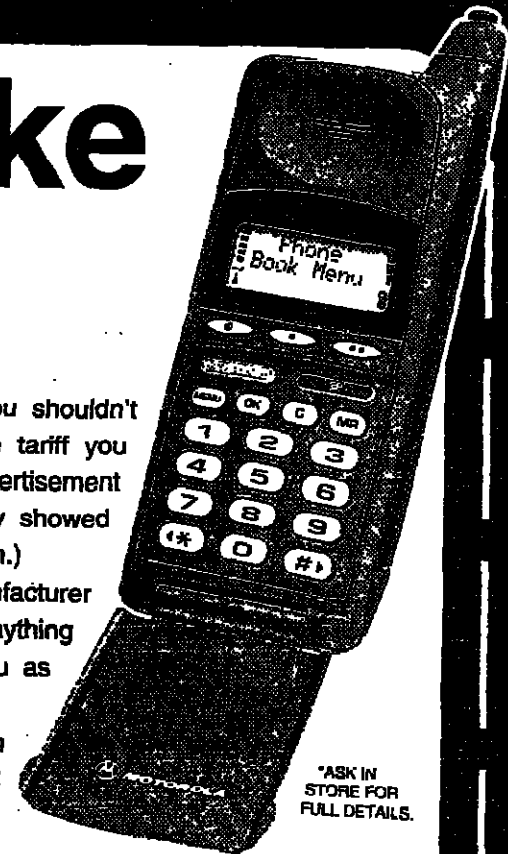
Take for instance the Motorola Microtac Duo, the phone with the unique flip design from only £4.99 incl. VAT, connected absolutely free to our new **Talk 'N' Save** tariff. **Talk 'N' Save** automatically adjusts all call charges according to usage, cutting your bill. It's simple, it takes all the worry out of choosing the right tariff, and it could save you as much as 20% on call charges every month without any increase in the Low User monthly line rental.

But at UniqueAir we believe you shouldn't decide the phone you buy and the tariff you connect to on the strength of an advertisement alone. (A recent independent survey showed that 1 in 4 people regret their decision.)

We're not tied to any one manufacturer or network so before we sell you anything our information centres will offer you as much free advice as you need.

For your nearest information centre call free **0800 33 88 22** and we'll help you make the right choice.

TAKE THE UNIQUE OPTION.



UNIQUEAIR
CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS

CALL FREE BETWEEN 8am-10pm
0800 33 88 22

We offer 75 high street information centres. UniqueAir is one of the largest independent service providers.

STARTING TODAY: THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE

How to choose the right school

THE publication of academic league tables has probably done more to raise the standards in our schools than any number of educational theories. That is why parents welcome them even if some head teachers do not. But do the tables also help parents to select the right secondary school for their son or daughter?

When the league tables are published, heads break into a new line: the tables are flawed and only show that schools recruiting the brightest pupils get the best results. But A-level league tables in particular tell us much more than that. The schools at the top of the league tables are by definition good schools, not exam factories: they offer high-quality education, discipline and pastoral care as well as teaching. Badly-run schools will never appear high in the league tables however bright their intake.

League tables also tell parents that in some parts of the country you do not have to pay fees to guarantee your child a good education. If you live in Buckinghamshire, what is the point of paying

fees when many of the state schools get significantly better A-level results than the local independent schools? The standard answer is that the latter offer a more rounded education.

League tables should encourage parents to check the local state schools, many of which have just as rich a programme of extracurricular activities, and also to look behind the independent schools publicity material. With some independent schools it is a case of "great prospectus, pity about the school". League tables show that good state schools are not confined to one county and a glance at five years of tables shows that the number of good state schools is increasing, largely because of the development of grant maintained schools.

A closer reading of the league tables reveals less predictable information such as the surprising



John Rae, left, explains how to interpret this week's league tables and, below, Times writers visit three of the best

resilience of the better independent boarding schools. Schools such as Radley, Tonbridge and Kings, Canterbury, whose first thought in recruiting is to fill beds, do as well

or better than many of the urban day schools who can pick their pupils from a rich seam of talent. The achievement of the girls' boarding schools such as Wycombe



that single sex schools are better than mixed or that girls do better in single sex schools. All they show is that the majority of selective academic schools are single sex.

One of the reasons parents go on paying fees when they do not need to do so is that despite league tables, it remains very difficult to judge what a school is really like. With a school in the top 50, even the top 150, parents at least know that whatever its weaknesses — and even highly-rated schools have them — it is a very professional outfit.

With schools further down the table that assumption cannot be made. Yet many of these schools would claim to be just as professional and to do just as good a job with the pupils they recruit. How can parents distinguish the wheat from the chaff?

Comprehensive schools, draw-

ing their intake from all abilities, can never hope to reach the upper echelons of the league, but many offer superb education for their pupils.

Nor do league tables identify the schools whose special ethos may be precisely what parents are looking for. One of the best-kept secrets of the independent sector is Christ's Hospital, a good, coeducational boarding school, only just outside the top 150, where only 2 per cent are paying the full fees and the average parental income is £15,000.

MODEST A-level results may disguise centres of musical excellence, expertise in helping children with dyslexia and sporting achievements of international standard. To discover these centres of excellence there is no substitute for detailed research.

League tables, thorough research and a certain scepticism about teachers' claims, will all help parents to select the right school. Even so, choosing a school for your child will always be a gamble. The author is a former Headmaster of Westminster School.

The best money can't buy

CHELMSFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Bernice McCabe, the Head Teacher of Chelmsford County High, is proud of the fact that girls can leave their tennis rackets lying around, without fear of theft. "It wouldn't happen in a state school," says the photographer, Mrs McCabe gives him a kindly look. "This is a state school," she says.

It is an easy mistake to make. Chelmsford, with its red-brick Edwardian facade, competitive house system, school motto *Vitae Lampada Ferimus* (We bear the torch of life) and dazzling exam results delivers, in Mrs McCabe's words, "the best education money can't buy".

There are ten applicants for every place at this all-girls grammar school, which regularly appears in the top ten of the *Times* survey of state school A-level and GCSE results. This summer, 26 girls out of 107 achieved three or more "A"s at A level, while nearly half the fifth form achieved eight or more "A"s at GCSE.

Virtually all pupils go on to university, around 20 a year to Oxford or Cambridge. All of which, added to the school's geographical location, make it a headline writer's dream: "Essex girls on top again", "Essex girls come first", "It's official: Essex girls have the best passes".

You are no more likely to find a fluffy-haired, white-stilted bimbo in the care of Mrs McCabe than to discover Dennis Skinner at a deb's ball. Girls must take three sciences at GCSE and at least one language out of French, German and Latin. Spanish and Russian are offered in the sixth form.

But Chelmsford is more than an academic hot-house. Girls are encouraged to participate in a profusion of extracurricular activities — from chess clubs to charity committees. There are 12 musical groups, formidable netball and hockey teams and flour-



Single sex success: head teacher Bernice McCabe with two of her pupils, Kate Poulton, left, and Amy Gibson

ishing drama societies. "Whenever a girl does something special like win a modelling competition, which has happened a couple of times, I announce it in assembly," says Mrs McCabe. "We want to find something every individual can excel in. The girls are used to being the brightest in their primary school when they come here and we don't want them to lose any of that confidence."

Mrs McCabe, who became head six years ago, might have stepped straight from an advertisement for a successful career woman. Elegantly suited, discreetly made up, with long, brown bobbed hair, she comes from a different planet from her moribund, black-gowned predecessors whose portraits line the walls. The school's first headmis-

stress, Mabel Harcourt, appointed in 1907, was forced to leave when she got married. The key to Chelmsford's palpable success lies in the fact that no one seems prouder of the school than the girls themselves. There is a notable absence of adolescent cynicism. Each form appoints a press officer who informs the local papers of every sponsored swim or expedition to Zimbabwe and there are parent/pupil committees for everything from uniform to the organisation of the Christmas fair.

There is a month to go until the end of term and the junior classes are getting excited about the decorated classroom competition. Two years ago, a form transformed itself into the inside of Father Christmas, with girls dressed in red and white for his respective blood corpuscles. Meanwhile,

the sixth form is fretting about their forthcoming mock A levels and Cambridge interviews. "It's hard to know how to prioritise," says Amy Gibson earnestly. "Obviously Cambridge is more important but you don't want to let yourself down for the mocks."

Amy and her fellow sixth-formers have been at Chelmsford since they were 11 and are well rehearsed in the arguments for single-sex schooling. "It's not as if we never see boys or anything," says one indignantly. "I mean, it would be different if we were an all-girl boarding school in the country. Without boys we can concentrate on our work and no one tells us not to study science," says another.

Only 30 per cent of pupils come from Chelmsford itself. Others commute from every

corner of Essex, Suffolk and London. The girls can't remember anyone ever having a detention. "Occasionally the younger pupils might get a bit noisy and we might tell them to be quiet because we're trying to work," says Amy, after thinking hard for an example of disorder. "It's not the kind of school where you need to tell girls not to run down the stairs," says Kate Poulton. "They would say, 'Well, it's obvious we shouldn't do that, there's no need to tell us.'" Mrs McCabe says she has never had a pupil reported to her for smoking.

"The best thing about the school," says Amy, "is that it's very friendly. You know everyone's face, even if you don't know their names. And it's not a major feat to find your teachers and talk to them."

JULIA LLEWELYN SMITH

Winning a gold star for effort

ST DUNSTON'S COLLEGE CATEFORD

and found that a significant number of our parents would have sent their daughters here if they had been able to."

So the school went co-ed, which involved spending £400,000 on modifications. "This emphasised that we were a family school, and gave us a local niche. Then we decided to open a pre-prep school, because the market for entry at seven was drying up."

He talks of "in-depth business analyses", of bringing in "SWAT" teams (rather than teams of swots) and of bringing in department heads from

other schools, to "draw on their experience of best practice".

All this may sound like St Dunstan's aspires to be an examination hothouse, but Mr Moore emphasises the importance of extracurricular activities. A new sports hall is almost complete, and the £800,000 appeal for funding was given a boost by £309,000 from the Sports Council lottery fund — "our development director put in a very well thought out application".

He paves the school grounds with great pride, pointing out new buildings and sites he plans to develop. In the main hall he slips into consultant-speak again: "We couldn't avoid the Victorian brickwork, but we were able to improve the visual impact by putting in a reception area, leather sofas and carpet."

Certainly there is a more relaxed atmosphere than in many private schools. "The thing the tables don't show is how well the less brilliant students are doing," he says. "If you look at the raw materials we have, you have to be very proud of making the top 300, and I am hoping we'll do even better in the future."

DENZIL MCNEELAND



David Moore, the head who made the difference

Comprehensive passion for doing better

A handwritten sign on a wall in the reception area of Shenley Court School offers congratulations to the pupils for their 1995 GCSE results: 35 per cent, it says, got five "C"s or better. An improvement of nearly 300 per cent on the 1990 figures. The pride is genuine.

Around the vast purpose-built comprehensive, on staircases and in corridors, are posted phrases from a recent Ofsted inspection report: "Pupils themselves feel secure and valued within the school community," and "the school is successful in achieving its overall aims of valuing individuals and creating a purposeful community".

None has been torn down, none laughingly scrawled with "rubbish!" or more forceful epithets. This is a non-selective urban state school that is abuzz with progress and, if the headmaster is anything to go by, bonhomie. "When I arrived in 1987," says Keith Dennis, "only 16 per cent were getting five 'C's' or better. By 1990 it was down to 14.5. There had been a merger with another school in 1983 and a feeling of unity had

SHENLEY COURT SCHOOL BIRMINGHAM

not yet been achieved. Attendance figures were bad, and the buildings were a mess." Mr Dennis puts much of the school's turnaround down to Birmingham's charismatic chief education officer, Tim Brighouse, who pushed hard for school improvement and brought with him increased funding at a time when cut-backs were rampant.

"We had been struggling to improve," says Mr Dennis. "But we were measuring ourselves in the wrong way: 70 of the 300 11-year-olds who came in 1994 were functional non-readers. In practical terms, they couldn't read at all. Our catchment area, although we are suburban, rates lower on the indices of deprivation than most inner-city schools — and no one argues with the fact that if you want top results you have to look to middle-class catchments. Furthermore, only a third of our youngsters



Keith Dennis with sixth-former Jenney Darnborough

are girls, who of course do better at GCSE. You go down into Worcestershire or Herefordshire and there are rural schools whose results we can never match."

But Mr Brighouse changed their thinking. "He told us our target should be to do better than our own previous best. And we thought 'anyone can do that', and things started to

look up." Practical moves included the lengthening of classes from 35 minutes to 70 minutes, rationalisation of the timetable, and the introduction of vocational courses (GNVQs) for pupils who were not up to GCSEs, with the result that truants started to return. While figures have improved all round, Mr Dennis sees them as symptomatic

of the school's improvement, rather than its object.

"My passion was about the huge waste in education. I failed the 11-plus myself, and didn't get into a grammar school. I got dreadful A levels, and was made to feel second-rate. But I had admired my teachers and put aside thoughts of becoming a Methodist minister to become a teacher. I wanted to shape the future, by shaping the people who would grow up in it."

It is this identification with the needs of his pupils that determines his approach to his work. "We know what the characteristics are of an effective school, but there is no quick fix. I didn't try to do everything at once. When I came in, I identified the strengths of the staff and tried to release those strengths. I also felt that the way a teacher is treated by senior management affects the way the teacher treats the youngsters."

He is also big on respect. "If you can't make the individual feel valued you might as well pack up and go home. And if you don't respect the youngsters they won't respect you."

The success of Shenley Court is a story of league tables and real life working in harmony. "The important thing is your reasons for doing what you do. If I say to staff 'we are doing this for the league tables', or 'for Ofsted', they will not be behind me. But if I say it is the best thing for the youngsters, they will back me all the way."

GILES COREN

TOMORROW: THE AUTHORITATIVE LEAGUE TABLE GUIDE

OVER 60% OF PEOPLE IN THE UK DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LIFE COVER THEY SHOULD HAVE. DO YOU?

PHONE 0800 100 888

If you want help in working out how much cover you need, call us free at a time convenient to you. We're open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm or Saturday 8am to 4pm, just quote reference A363D. You'll find there's no hard sell, just clear, straightforward financial advice.

ABBIE NATIONAL DIRECT



FINANCIAL PLANNING

(Source: NOP Life survey for Abbie National Life July 1994.) For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you we may record or monitor all calls to Abbie National Direct. Life assurance products are provided by Abbie National Life plc. Stopping premiums in the early years may result in a surrender value which is less than the premiums paid. The value of investments and any income from them may fall as well as rise, is not guaranteed and, therefore, you may not get back the full amount you invest. Abbie National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6AL, United Kingdom. ABBIE NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND UNIT TRUST PRODUCTS.

Matthew Parris



Personal experience tells me that few scandals in public life are quite true — or entirely false

William Deedes, the former Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, is said once to have advised a new diary columnist that every good diary story contained "one fact, one speculation, and one very slight inaccuracy". Reading in the *Telegraph's* own diary last week that I am now writing John Major's speeches, I chuckled.

This diarist had done a good job on slender but not invented evidence. I did once, many moons ago, suggest a few sentences for a speech Mr Major was writing. The story has, I suppose, lain dormant in the dark since then, and all at once sprouted into the exotic plant which blossomed last week (alongside a flattering photograph of myself taken in youth) in *The Daily Telegraph*. The diary said I was being "coy" about the rumour, which is diary-speak for my flat denial. I intend to dine out on this one, and whenever the PM makes one of his better speeches I shall look as coy as I can contrive, and in response to suggestions that I wrote it shall murmur "well, that's not entirely true".

Hard on the heels of this story came one in the *Londoner's Diary of the Evening Standard*. Apparently I am the hot tip to be new Director of Communications at Conservative Central Office. As nobody who knows me would suppose for a moment that I could direct a hot-dog stall, let alone Tory communications, the rumour is fairly mysterious. Yet not entirely. A journalist friend, Bruce Anderson, did (he tells me) once suggest, many moons ago, that I should be approached about this job. I was not approached, would certainly have been honoured to be approached, but would have refused without need for reflection. There you are, *Londoner's Diary*, is that sufficiently coy?

In Derbyshire I am still dining out on a rumour that I have been seen running naked through the woods with a friend from Youghal. This story followed one in *Scallywag* (about which I have written in this column). Apparently I was giving drag parties in a room above the local pub, where a favourite guest was a balding middle-aged junior minister who wore high heels and liked to be called "Lucy".

These stories are harder to track to their sources, but are greatly to be encouraged as they add to the gaiety of local life. If necessary I shall have to validate them retrospectively, but my pal from Youghal is still refusing to cooperate. He is an accomplished flat-runner and has been a good friend for some 15 years. Our friendship has never been touched by so much as a

trace of physical attraction on either side, as he is, mercifully, heterosexual and goes out with a girl called Edwina. Her nickname is Eddie. In this tangle, perhaps, lies the source of the rumour. After all, another Edwina was once a junior minister. A fell-runner, an ex-MP, a junior minister who likes to be called Eddie... the only bit which still stumps me is the nakedness.

Never mind. Next time *The Daily Telegraph* asks me whether I have been spotted pausing, naked except for my high heels, in the woods with Eddie (a transvestite Tory Director of Communications who likes to be called Lucy) while we pen the Prime Minister's next speech, I shall in response be characteristically coy. So will Eddie.

Researching and writing a book called *Great Parliamentary Scandals*, I have been pondering the Deedes maxim. In the field of rumour about the private lives of more famous people than I shall ever be, you would need to adapt it. Most juicy media scandals contain a wealth of speculation, several vast inaccuracies, but one slight and altogether fascinating fact.

There's no smoke without fire, they tell us. This is widely believed in the world of title-tattle about royalty, politics and other forms of popular entertainment. It is true, I believe, only in the literal sense: there will have been a fire, but it may be only ash now, and it may not lie at the seat of the smoke. Very few scandalous stories about public figures are entirely true. Few are completely false.

Charles Dilke probably didn't sleep, three-in-a-bed with Mrs Crawford and the buxom serving girl Fanny Stock. But he probably did sleep with Mrs Crawford's mother, Gladstone (to the prostitutes of London, "Old Glad-Eyes" or "Daddy-do-nothing") probably didn't sleep with her to read the Bible to. But he scoured himself mercilessly afterwards and seemed to enjoy it. "Has it been sufficiently considered," he wrote, "how pain may become the ground of enjoyment?"

Sir Francis Bacon probably didn't, as Lord Chancellor, deliver judgments as he had been bribed to. But the young men in his office ("He has the habit," wrote one contemporary, "of making his servants his bedfellows") probably did take the bribes. How different from the home life of our own dear Lord Chancellor. Scandals ain't what they used to be.

Robson Books publish *Great Parliamentary Scandals* at £16.95.

The monarchy will gain from the Princess of Wales's broadcast, but the BBC is risking its unique status

Birt's gamble with the Corporation

I find myself amused, rather than shocked or enraptured, when I see the Princess of Wales deliver a well-signalled sucker punch to the stubby chin of her critics. Like other historic co-inheritors of the Stuart PR gene, the Princess is brilliant at the kingcraft of public-image building. She does not have Van Dyck, but she can certainly use the camera. The unfortunate Prince of Wales seems only to have the Windsor gene to guide him, or perhaps a Saxe-Coburg-Gotha gene from his psychologically similar ancestor, the Prince Consort.

It is, however, charming to see so many courtiers and journalists fall into a traditional Fool's Mate of the PR game. You start by building a bogey, with starting eyes, a turnip head and a long black cloak. Every one responds with fear and horror to this alarming presence. The bogey drops its turnip head and cloak, and a beautiful Princess is revealed, who speaks words of comfort and healing. Of course tonight will be a great success, all the more so because of the build-up it has received. And that will do the monarchy much more good than harm. I am sure she does it all herself, and that the disappointed press advisers did not need to be consulted. If you are born with perfect pitch, you do not need to consult the village choir-master in order to hit the high notes.

It is not therefore the monarchy issue in tonight's performance which worries me. If one takes the long view, and tries to see the Princess of Wales as her role may appear in a hundred years' time, she will then be seen as the great royal star of the late 20th century, the most famous member of the Royal Family since Queen Victoria. She uses, to brilliant effect, all the 20th-century skills; she is, in this sense, a superstar.

No doubt this can be embarrassing for the Royal Family, and particular-

ly for Prince Charles, a serious-minded and conscientious man who finds himself written into a drama in which his role is unsympathetic. His position would try the patience of a saint, and the House of Windsor has never been a patient family. In the British theatre of 1900, leading actors were not queuing up to play opposite Mrs Pat Campbell. They knew they could not win. Yet the Royal Family needs stars, from time to time, if only to create the present extraordinary high level of public interest. It is the stars who are remembered, even centuries later.

The third thing is that the Stuart gene, brilliant as it is, almost always ends in personal tragedy. The two great examples of the Stuart temperament were Mary Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie. It is sad that the rest of the Royal Family cannot sit back and enjoy the play, from which, in historic terms, they have more to gain than lose. They should see these events from the point of view of their deeply Hanoverian monarch, King George VIII, who will be making guffawing references to his great grandmother in his Christmas speech on Sky Television in the year 2100.

The *Panorama* broadcast does not show that the Royal Family has broken down; on the contrary, it shows that the old firm is more interesting than it has been for a long time. Yet this broadcast is a disaster for somebody; it is a disaster for the

BBC. The way the story has been handled has challenged the central proposition of the BBC's constitution. High ratings and a couple of million pounds are not worth that, because the licence fee itself depends on the BBC's constitution being upheld.

The BBC is a uniquely privileged broadcasting body. It receives a large licence fee which is, in effect, a tax on television reception. It does not have to raise money from its subscribers, like Sky Television, or from advertising, like the independent companies.

It has a monopoly of two of the present four terrestrial channels. In return for this, it is governed by a royal charter, which places legal power entirely in the hands of a board of governors, under a chairman, who appoints a director-general and a board of management. The governors are there to satisfy themselves that this tax-funded public monopoly is run in the public interest. They do not normally preview programmes, or refuse to transmit them, though they have a legal right and in certain circumstances could have a legal duty to do either.

As far as possible, the governors try to make sure that the BBC lives up to high standards of integrity, impartiality and public service. They have to be consulted on policies or individual programmes which may affect the BBC's reputation. Tonight's *Panorama* is such a programme.

The Princess herself was perfectly entitled to give the interview. Her husband gave a similar one a year or so ago. She did not wish to tell the Palace officials — not unreasonably, as she believed they had given briefings unsympathetic to her in the past. The BBC producers did not wish to tell Marmaduke Hussey, the Chairman, what they were doing, though that would have been the proper constitutional BBC practice. They had two reasons: they did not wish the board of governors to have the opportunity to intervene, and they thought, wrongly, that Mr Hussey might tell his wife, who is a lady-in-waiting to the Queen, and that the secret might get to the Palace in that way. They did not tell his Chairman until the last possible minute. That was the point of breakdown.

John Birt has not been a failure as Director-General. He has introduced badly needed reforms, and taken his predecessor's reforms a stage further. He can be pedantically bureaucratic, but that may be an acceptable price to pay for overdue reorganisation. He has always been awkward with people, and the resulting resentment

of some of his staff made reforms more difficult. He would not have become Director-General, or survived, without Marmaduke Hussey's support as Chairman, which has been consistent, loyal and skilful in handling the personal issues.

The constitution of the BBC only works if there is total confidence between chairman and director-general. The chairman must give total support, or get himself a new director-general. The director-general must know what is happening in the BBC, and must tell the chairman everything important. The board of governors rely on the chairman to represent them between meetings and assume that he is being kept fully informed. According to Nicholas Hellen in *The Sunday Times*, BBC managers admit they took a conscious decision to inform their chairman only at the last possible moment. Such a decision destroys this relationship. Over the weekend members of the board of management gave briefings to the effect that keeping things from the chairman is normal BBC practice. That is unacceptable.

As the relationship between the chairman and the director-general is the focus of the constitution of the BBC, this will have to be resolved. Either John Birt will have to apologise for his conduct, or he will have to go, or the board of governors will have to go. If he remains, without an apology, after having deliberately expressed his contempt for his chairman, then the board of governors will be seen by everyone as impotent and futile. Without supervision in the public interest by the board of governors, the BBC would have no legal claim to its monopoly or its licence fee. It would be just another broadcasting company, deserving no special favours. John Birt's decision not to inform his chairman has put the whole system at risk.

Her Majesty's controversy

Peter Riddell says the monarch has more to worry about than interviews



The most revealing royal conversation has already been broadcast. It did not involve either the Prince or Princess of Wales, but was the hoax call three weeks ago to the Queen by a Canadian chat-show host. Its real significance has been missed. The 14-minute conversation offered a rare insight into the Queen's continuing active constitutional role. Not that anything she said was improper, far from it. The Queen, in consultation with her private secretary, Sir Robert Fellowes, was correct in being willing to consider the suggestion of what she assumed was the Canadian Prime Minister that she make a television broadcast before the Quebec referendum.

That important constitutional role — and the possibility that it could make the monarchy more vulnerable — is barely discussed by politicians. In Britain, it is regarded as bad form and displaying a lack of seriousness for any leading politician to discuss the monarchy. Jack Straw, Mo Mowlam and Tony Benn have all been attacked for raising the issue. So most Labour MPs keep quiet, whatever their private views.

Tory MPs share Bagehot's opinion that the mystery of the Crown is its life, and that letting in daylight would destroy its magic: hence, even debating the monarchy is somehow unpatriotic and tantamount to republicanism. That is nonsense, both historically and practically. It is in the monarchy's long-term interests as undisputed Head of State and symbol of nationhood for these issues to be discussed.

Many of the Crown's powers are, in practice, vested in the government of the day. These prerogative powers,

exercised by ministers in the name of the Crown, allow the executive to declare war, ratify treaties, control the Armed Forces, run the Civil Service and make a wide range of appointments without involving Parliament. The position of the Crown would not be diminished if these powers were placed on a statutory basis, as both the Security Service and the Secret Intelligence Service have been in recent years.

The Crown still has extensive direct powers: the appointment of prime ministers, the dissolution of Parliament and the creation of peers. In most cases, there is no problem about Parliament with no overall majority — which would be certain if any system of proportional representation were adopted. It might not then be obvious who should be asked to form a government, or

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

electoral system usually produces a clear result, and since 1965 all the main parties have elected their leaders, so the monarch has not been involved in the choice. However, the Crown has been dragged into fierce political controversy at least half a dozen times this century, and easily could have been on many other occasions. Party leaders have tried to avoid putting the monarch in an embarrassing position. But such a predicament could occur if there were a hung Parliament with no overall majority — which would be certain if any system of proportional representation were adopted. It might not then be obvious who should be asked to form a government, or

which party leader should be granted a dissolution. When hints were dropped during the Maastricht battles of 1992-93 that John Major might threaten a dissolution to bring the Tory rebels back into line, there were suggestions that the Queen need not automatically grant such a request, at least unless it were clearly backed by the Cabinet.

In his stimulating book *The Monarchy and the Constitution*, Vernon Bogdanor supports the Crown's residual role as defender of the constitution. This amounts to much more than Bagehot's famous — and much exaggerated — trio of rights: to be consulted, to encourage and to warn. Bogdanor argues that it has proved impossible to lay down guidelines to deal with constitutional crises, which generally blow up unexpectedly. Precedents and conventions have

often been in conflict. His answer is that "alone in the state, the Sovereign enjoys a total freedom from party ties and the complete absence of party history. If an umpire is needed — and no democratic state can operate without one — the Sovereign is likely to prove a safer guide than a president, who is necessarily the outcome of an electoral process in which political parties will have played a predominant part."

But the Crown's role as umpire works only if the monarch remains above controversy. That is inherently more difficult in an era of intensive and intrusive media attention, as the "Charles and Diana" saga shows. If there is a constitutional stalemate, it will be much harder than in the past to prevent the Crown being in the spotlight, particularly if the monarchy has itself become more controversial as a result of the private frailties of members of the Royal Family.

The good sense and experience of the present Queen is no defence against future politicisation. As Peter Hennessy argues in *The Hidden Wiring*, "just one hung election result in which the royal choice left a part of the political nation aggrieved would be immensely damaging". The current official view that these matters are best left undiscussed in public is no longer sustainable. At the very least, as Hennessy argues, the principles guiding the choice of prime minister in a hung Parliament need to be made clear and transparent, even if all contingencies cannot be foreseen.

There is a strong case for ending the monarch's role as political umpire and delegating these powers to commissioners. This could be a group of the great and the good, who would arbitrate in the case of such a constitutional stalemate, so removing the monarchy itself from potential political controversy. This is not quasi-republicanism. Rather, it is a recognition that the political role of the Crown is not fixed, but has constantly changed, always with the primary aim of ensuring the survival of the monarchy itself. It is an eminently Tory approach.

Kids' stuff

ANOTHER punch was thrown in a celebrity scrap in the heart of Nimbyshire over the weekend. Jeremy Paxman and fellow members of the chattering classes are continuing to feud over a disused school in their Oxfordshire village. Paxman and his neighbour John Mortimer want the school in Turville, in the depths of the Chilterns, to be used as an educational centre for disadvantaged children from urban areas. Other village residents, led by the historian Alistair Horne, are appalled by the idea. His view: "Not so much Paradise Postponed as Paradise Cancelled Altogether."

The *Newsnight* presenter's latest offensive was to chair a celebrity game-show in a west London church hall on Saturday night to raise funds to buy the school. The event amounted to a glorified pub quiz, with wine flowing freely and teams captained by the likes of Sir Robin Day, Loyd Grossman and Mortimer. Team members included the actresses Sinead Cusack and Joanna David as well as the publisher Carmen Callil.

The evening raised £7,000 but ended in controversy. A team

consisting of the thriller-writer Robert Harris, football author Nick Hornby and the smooth-talking Labour spin-doctor Peter Mandelson won the event. A disgruntled *Vanity Fair* team, captained by the royal biographer Anthony Holden, came second. "There were cries of 'It's a fix,' because Gill Hornby, who organised the event, happens to be



"Like a fool I told her to relax in front of the telly"

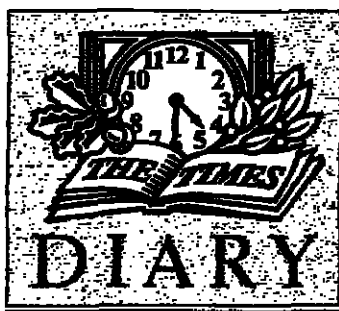
Robert Harris's wife and Nick Hornby's sister," says Holden.

● *Railtrack appears to be unable to tell its stations from its organs.* The invitation to its PR department's Christmas party arrives with a map showing the location of a number of London stations — including St Pancras.

Scorebook

JOHN MAJOR has revealed a vital role of one of his closest aides in the day-to-day running of government. His principal private secretary, Alexander Allan — who has always played the bouncers of political life with a very straight bat — is also his Test match special adviser.

Major outlined the job as the champagne flowed at a party at the Australian High Commission last week. He lamented that he had never succeeded in organising a trip to Australia to coincide with a Test series, and had not been able to follow pre-delegate play in the current Test in South Africa as closely as he would have wished. "Work sometimes interferes with cricket. It's a bore when it does," he said. "Fortunately, my principal private secretary is a cricket fan and feeds me bulletins throughout the day." Allan was previously best known



for his love for the rock band the Grateful Dead.

Ballooning

SALVATORE CALABRESE, the exotically named bar manager at London's Lanesborough hotel, is on stand-by now that the American rock band Bon Jovi is in the capital on a world tour.

Despite their ear-splitting music, members of the band have a refined taste in brandy, and have tracked down Salvatore's superior collection on more than one occasion in the past. "Last time they were here, one of them enjoyed an 1802 cognac, which we sell at £500 a shot," said Salvatore. "He enjoyed it so much that he gave me and my son a free ticket and a backstage pass to their concert."

● Jonathan Aitken may be keeping his eyes peeled if he is in Westminster today. Mohamed Al Fayed, who appeared in front of the privileges committee to explain his role in the "cod far" affair earlier this month, will be at large in the Commons, presenting British Diversity Awards for innovation.

Live wire

THE shockwaves caused by the Princess of Wales's *Panorama* interview have been keenly felt in the boardroom of the National Grid. When the programme ends, the company will be braced for the biggest strain on the power system since England's 1990 World Cup semi-final against Germany. When the final whistle went there was a 2,800-megawatt surge of power — four times the rate when an episode of *Coronation Street* comes to an end. "Extra lights go on. All those toilets flushing set a lot of electric pumps working. But it is the kettles which cause the biggest surge in power. We are ready though," says a National Grid spokesman.

● Diners at a new London establishment will have to take care that flapping down a waiter doesn't land them with an expensive work of art. Sotheby's is planning to



Liz producer, now open a restaurant at its headquarters in New Bond Street.

Shoot or cut?

ELIZABETH HURLEY just can't make up her mind what to do with Hugh Grant. Is that unfortunate incident on Sunset Boulevard "resolved", asks next month's *Esquire* magazine. "Well, I don't know really. I'm not very good at taking active decisions, to be quite honest. I mean, I am in a surface way but

... you play each day as it comes," she says.

She is rather more decisive about her business career. Shooting starts in January on a film she is producing, *Extreme Measures*, starring Grant, for their company, Simian Films. "It's exactly what I wanted to do. Always trying to see how far you can go is very exciting," she explains.

Framed

AS IF he didn't have enough to worry about, the Prince of Wales's attempt to establish himself as a serious artist has received a setback from President Clinton and Newt Gingrich. Their talent over America's budget, and the resulting shutdown of non-essential government services, meant that an exhibition of the Prince's watercolours failed to open at the weekend.

The exhibition is booked into Ronald Reagan's Presidential Library in California, which is part of the National Archives and is staffed by federal workers, who were all sent home. "We are disappointed, but we hope visitors will be able to return to see the pictures later," says the library.

P.H.S



THE TAX ILLUSION

The Budget should not be judged by headlines about tax cuts

Next week's Budget will offer the Government its last opportunity to put money in voters' pockets in sufficient time before the general election. It is not surprising, therefore, that pre-Budget speculation about this year's likely tax giveaways has been even more feverish than usual. Many panicky Tory backbenchers seem convinced that the outcome of the general election will be absolutely settled tomorrow week. At the risk of oversimplification, the view from the Commons bars can be easily summarised. If the Chancellor cuts only a penny off the standard rate of income tax, the Tories are done for. But if he cuts income tax by 2p or more next year and backs this up with a promise that standard rate tax will fall to 20p in the next Parliament, then voters will surely revert to type and back the party that promises them the lowest taxes. John Major could still be in with a chance.

Reality, both economic and political, is very different from Westminster's febrile perceptions. If Kenneth Clarke is tempted to follow the demands of his restive backbenchers and sacrifice fiscal caution to inspire a few dramatic headlines on taxes, he should reflect on the figures published today in *The Times*. These show just how implausible the Tories will sound when they boast about their Budget tax cuts and subsequently try to present themselves as the party of low taxes — or even of low income taxes.

The Chancellor can afford to announce some tax cuts in next week's Budget and he certainly should do so. One of the main objectives of government should be to reduce its demands on the taxpayer over time. Far more important than maximising the size of the tax cuts, however, will be for the Chancellor to ensure that his tax will be sustainable and to stick to his impressive long-range plan to eliminate the public sector borrowing requirement by 1998-99.

It would be good politics, as well as good economics, for the Chancellor to ignore his noisy backbenchers and err on the side of caution. The standard rate of tax, in which some Tories have invested all their electoral

hopes, is nothing more than a totem. As *The Times* figures show, no conceivable cut in the standard rate would be big enough to undo, even in the long term, the damage done to middle-class incomes in the past three years by the slashing of mortgage tax relief and marriage allowances. Even if voters believed a Tory promise to reduce the standard rate by 5p to 20p, this might leave them unimpressed. As our calculations show, many middle-class families would require a standard rate tax cut of 8p or 9p to restore them to their 1992 position. And polling evidence suggests that voters are beginning to understand that there is more to tax policy than a Dutch auction between Tories and Labour over the standard rate.

There is, however, an economic boon which the Tories can legitimately boast of, but which could be imperilled by reckless behaviour on tax. This is the dramatic reduction in interest rates since 1992, a development only made possible by the Government's tough tax policies. Since April 1992, the standard mortgage rate has fallen by three percentage points. For a typical middle-class family with a mortgage of £50,000, that has meant a saving of £1,500 annually — more than enough to offset the £1,000 they pay in extra income taxes. If the Chancellor followed a prudent Budget with another cut in interest rates, as he certainly ought to, voters would have reason to offer him further thanks.

The sharp reduction in real interest rates since Britain left the European exchange-rate mechanism, as well as helping middle-class homeowners, has done wonders for the competitiveness of British industry and helped to put the country's manufacturing sector back on its feet. For the Chancellor to jeopardise these achievements for a few sensational headlines on taxes would be madness. Tax reductions matched by cuts in public spending are almost always desirable. But the prudent management of the nation's finances, combined with the further easing of monetary policy which this will make possible, is more important.

BALLOTS AND GUNS

A long-awaited glimmer of hope for Algeria

Even as a bomb exploded yesterday at the Egyptian Embassy in Pakistan, there was some good news at last from another troubled Arab state, Algeria. The election as President on Saturday of Liamine Zeroual has brought much-needed hope to a country at bloody war with itself for nearly four years. Hope in Algeria is welcome in even the smallest doses.

The country's civil war is not about to end overnight — far from it. The banned opposition Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) has dismissed the elections in its usual trenchant manner, as have those secular parties which chose to boycott the polls. But if General Zeroual, now the beneficiary of a real mandate, were to use his election to conciliatory effect, Algeria would have a better chance of returning to peace than it has ever enjoyed since the civil war began.

Thousands have died — at the hands of remorseless Islamic terrorists and equally unmerciful defenders of the State — since the last elections were annulled in January 1992. Then the FIS, putative winners of an election whose turnout was much smaller than the one conducted last week, was denied power by a military junta fearful of Islamic rule in Algeria. The annulment of those elections should now, with hindsight, be seen as an error, as was the failure of Western states to condemn the junta at the time.

Yet there were genuine concerns then about the democratic *bona fides* of the FIS. Would it, for example, have dismantled Algerian democracy as soon as it took charge of Government? How tolerant would it have been of the institutional process

which brought it to power? Would it ever submit itself to elections again, or relinquish power democratically? We will never know for sure: but we do know that Algeria has had anything but democracy since January 1992. Democracy, as much as intolerant Islamist politics, has been the victim of the junta's "secular" crusade.

Until last week's elections, the political picture consisted of an unelected junta in control of the country, with no mandate to rule, but with the uneasy support of Western countries. The only party with proven electoral support, however questionable its fidelity to democratic principles, was the FIS. Now, after the recent elections, there are two parties in Algerian politics which enjoy the support of the electorate — the FIS, from the last exercise four years ago, and General Zeroual from this one.

It would be wrong to scoff at General Zeroual's victory, however flawed the polls may have been. The FIS is still banned, and the major secular opposition parties did not participate. But the turnout of voters was impressive. Derived though it may be from a weariness with the civil war, the general has considerable support.

He would err, however, in treating his victory as an end in itself. The elections were only the beginning — not the culmination — of Algeria's return to democracy. General Zeroual has, just as the FIS did in 1992, a powerful but inconclusive mandate to rule. Guarding against triumphalism, he must now kindle a process of multiparty negotiations. Only from such a process can a solution emerge.

SCHOOLS WEEK

A mission to make league tables more useful

Today, *The Times* launches its Schools Week to coincide with the Department for Education and Employment's publication of its annual GCSE and A-level league tables. We will carry these rankings for more than 3,000 schools and colleges in England and Scotland tomorrow. For the fourth year, parents, teachers and governors will scrutinise their schools' relative performance. Heads will ask themselves why they have done well or badly, why the comprehensive a mile away has achieved so much less or so much more.

In spite of enormous initial hostility from the education establishment, the compilation of league tables has become a fixture in the public sector calendar, an important routine which reminds schools that they are accountable to taxpayers and parents. This year our tables will also show how schools have improved or deteriorated — a vital consideration for parents thinking ahead and looking for trends rather than snapshots of performance.

But information is not the same as guidance. The new transparency in the public services has created problems for parents unused to so much information about schools. The purpose of our service this week is to help parents to choose, as well as to give them the raw statistics they need as a starting point. Each day we will publish case studies of individual schools which have done well, advice on what to look

for in a school, guidance on assisted places and hints on coaching for entrance tests. Our surveys will explore the independent as well as the state sector. By the end of the week, readers should be better placed to ask the right questions of schools looking for their children.

Although the national curriculum has been the subject of far greater controversy, the enhancement of parental choice is the most important plank of the Government's education reforms. Studies in America — notably East Harlem — have shown that improved choice plays a greater role in the enhancement of standards than centrally enforced curriculums. It also makes the task of parenting that much more complicated.

In this country, the level of choice is notionally impressive, since 90 per cent of parents secure a place for their child at their favoured school. But this is partly because parents have tended to be unadventurous; most have yet to take full advantage of their new rights to opt for schools outside their neighbourhoods. As more do so — preferring the successful opted-out school a car journey away to the mediocre council school two minutes' walk away — the pressure on places at the best schools will grow accordingly. The new education marketplace can be daunting as well as liberating. Every parent desperately wants to take the right decision for his or her child. Our Schools Week should make the task that much easier.

Likely results of royal broadcast

From Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, If the sole function of the Press Complaints Commission is to adjudicate upon specific complaints by members of the public claiming breaches of the commission's code of practice, why has Lord Wakeham declared — in advance of any prospective complaint by the Princess of Wales that her privacy has been unjustifiably invaded — that she will fail to establish any breach?

Does not Lord Wakeham's public declaration prejudice, in the eyes of the public, the independent and impartial judgment of the commission which Lord Wakeham chairs?

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER
(Chairman of the Press Council, 1989-90),
2 Ripplevale Grove, NI,
November 19.

From Mr John Pittuck

Sir, Like Mr Patrick Savage (letter, November 18) I spent my teaching life in boys' boarding schools and was in the last one as a housemaster for 12 years. As a father and grandfather also, I share his deep concern for the two young boys awaiting their mother's broadcast.

Generally I found that boys who came from unsettled homes were able, against a background of acrimony, to conduct themselves with a dignity and maturity often sadly lacking in some of their parents. I was always proud to be part of a pastoral process which could give constructive support to such children.

In this situation, however, we are talking about the sons of two of the most high-ranking figures in the country; and if, as we are led to believe, the Princess is to reveal personal details of her marriage and beyond, then the effect on her children could be even more devastating. It would become a part of history that they and their eventual offspring will never shake off.

Is there not still time for the BBC and the Princess of Wales to call a halt to this broadcast and preserve, thereby, the respect and affection that may have for both?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PITLUCK,
Hillside Cottage, 62 Dunmow Road,
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire,
November 18.

From Mrs D. M. Dudley

Sir, Tomorrow, November 20, is the Queen's wedding anniversary. Is it not a very insensitive act by the BBC to show the Princess Diana interview on TV on that evening?

Have they no consideration for the Queen's personal feelings?

Yours truly,
D. M. DUDLEY,
24 Millfield Close,
Pickering, North Yorkshire,
November 19.

Tax cuts in the Budget?

From Mrs Gillian Draper

Sir, Mr A. E. Gregory (letter, November 14) asks what good will tax cuts do for "pensioners, unemployed, those on income support and various forms of social security, who do not pay any direct tax".

However, for the millions of taxpayers who support those groups, tax cuts would be very good, especially for the many taxpayers who are poorer than their beneficiaries.

Yours faithfully,
GILL DRAPER,
Flat 3, San Remo Mansions,
San Remo Parade,
Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex,
November 14.

From Mr Christopher Romyn

Sir, Would it not be of great benefit to make personal equity plans free of inheritance tax? This would encourage saving for old age, in the knowledge that the capital sum would be available in full to pass down the generations — and make Peps truly tax free.

Yours faithfully,
C. S. ROMYN,
41 Bluehouse Lane,
Oxted, Surrey,
November 10.

Effects of class size

From Mr John Bausor

Sir, Ofsted has discovered that class size does not have much relationship to performance, particularly exam results (report, November 11). It is a finding which fits in nicely with the Government's view that increasing class size is unimportant.

There is actually a positive association between class size and exams — the bigger the class the better the results: even better from the Government's point of view. But this is not evidence that the former causes the latter.

Slow learners are usually put into smaller classes while high-flyers are often in quite large classes. The class size is determined by the performance, not vice versa.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BAUSOR
(Education consultant),
5 Longcroft Road,
Edgware, Middlesex,
November 17.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Bars to political stability in Ulster

From Mr J. F. Q. Switzer

Sir, Did our Government really express astonishment at Mr Bruton's London speech (report, November 13), in which he accused Britain of failing to match Dublin's response to the IRA ceasefire? I saw it as the speech of a weak politician trying to show his electorate that he is more nationalist than the opposition Fianna Fail party, and at least as belligerent as the Gerry Adams who has referred to John Major as "the Prime Minister of a government that claims jurisdiction over part of my country".

But Mr Bruton was also reported to have said: "However painful, it is now the time for the antagonisms of the past to be put aside, in the interests of building a better future for all."

Let us take him at his word and ask him to face up to the principal cause of continuing antagonism, namely the claim in the Constitution of the Republic that "the national territory consists of the whole island of Ireland".

This claim to British territory is not only incompatible with the Republic's membership of the European Union — the Accession Treaty of 1972 refers throughout to "the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" — but patently contravenes the provisions of the Helsinki agreement, which require the parties to refrain from any demand for part or all of the territory of another state.

In the Downing Street declaration of December 15, 1993, the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and of the Republic of Ireland made "a solemn commitment to promote co-operation on the basis of... obligations under international agreements" (Article 2).

The most important contribution that the Dublin Government could make to the re-establishment of political stability in Northern Ireland is to repudiate the illegal claim to the territory of another member state of the European Union.

Our own Government has not been blameless. It has failed to make use of straightforward, readily available arguments to defend its position in Northern Ireland; its supine behaviour and talk of "no selfish strategic or

economic interest" in the Province has certainly been interpreted by the Irish Republican Army and Irish nationalists generally as meaning that the Government no longer cares about sovereignty.

But here again Bruton gives encouragement. Since his speech I have heard him in a radio interview say that "nothing is gained by sweeping things under the carpet". Can we now hope for speedy joint action to end a constitutional absurdity that has no place in the Europe of the Nineties?

Yours faithfully,
J. F. Q. SWITZER,
Sidney Sussex College,
Cambridge CB2 3HU,
November 18.

From Mr C. Mark Dixon

Sir, I take issue with your view (leading article, November 15) and the Government's that the IRA must decommission arms prior to the admission of Sinn Féin to the peace talks.

Surely, the objective must be to seek out a peace agreement that all parties can live with, if such is possible. It would have to include the decommissioning of arms of both the IRA and the loyalist forces, subject to other terms being met by other parties involved. These undertakings would have to include safeguards to ensure that the decommissioning actually took place.

Your state that this leaves the Unionists a Hobson's choice of bloodshed or a constitutional package heavily favouring the nationalists. This will be determined only by the talks themselves. If the nationalists are willing to accept a democratic verdict, the weapons should not affect the negotiations. If they are not, the ceasefire is nothing more than an interlude.

With the amount of distrust that exists, it is naive to expect that the IRA will decommission as a prelude to talks rather than as an outcome.

Yours sincerely,
C. M. DIXON,
Boutells Farm, Henny Road,
Lamarsh, nr Bures, Suffolk,
November 17.

Defects of immunity certificates

From Mr Rupert Allason, MP for Torbay (Conservative)

Sir, Douglas Hurd, in his letter of November 15, acknowledges that a "difficulty arises if a minister is invited to try his hand at striking the balance which should be the preserve of the judge" when signing public interest immunity certificates (PIICs).

As the Ordice case has highlighted (report, November 8), PIICs have come to be regarded as trump cards. Indeed, if the Matrix Churchill judge had not agreed to study all the documents himself, the prosecution would very likely have prevailed again. Fortunately he ignored the eloquent assurances given by the prosecution and scrutinised each document which the prosecution had described as irrelevant to the defendants.

Douglas Hurd's perspective is that when ministers sign PIICs they do little more than support an application to the court, so leaving the final decision to the judge.

In reality, prior to the Matrix Churchill precedent, judges never challenged PIICs. If an experience of mine six years ago is anything to go

by, when I was in receipt of a certificate as a defendant in a civil case, they rarely if ever examined for themselves the background documents in contention. On that occasion, the vexed judge asked rhetorically, "who am I to gainsay the Secretary of State?"

It is to be hoped that Lord Justice Scott recommends that ministers come under a clear obligation to hear both sides of an argument before issuing a PIIC; that they read all relevant documents for themselves; and that the judiciary does the same, treating a PIIC as nothing more than a request, and certainly not a knockout punch.

Of course, as Douglas Hurd points out, confidences have to be respected, sensitive identities preserved and the national interest protected; but surely these objectives can be accomplished through *in camera* hearings which avoid the unfairness inherent in what are rightly called gagging orders when the courts feel bound to uphold them.

Yours faithfully,
RUPERT ALLASON,
House of Commons,
November 15.

Drug legislation

From Mr D. A. L. Enmett

Sir, To my mind, one of the major elements of the drug problem is illustrated graphically by the photograph accompanying Valerie Grove's article on Ecstasy (November 15). The caption starts: "A drug-free party of innocent young people enjoying themselves..." Snatch in the middle of the picture is a bottle of alcohol, one of the worst problem drugs of our day.

Where the use of one harmful drug is tolerated, and even approved of and encouraged, warnings on others, arbitrarily declared illegal, are doomed not to be taken seriously.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID EMETT,
Hosia 9,
221 ML Noordwijkerhout,
The Netherlands.

From Dr Ruth Chambers

Sir, The Ofsted report has apparently been unable to identify any direct relationship between class size and pupil performance. Even if this apparently illogical conclusion were true in the short term, it fails to take account of large classes on teachers' morale and stress levels.

Prolonged periods of teaching and controlling large classes are likely to affect teachers' mental health, causing them to become less effective, more sick leave, or retire early. Would this not reduce pupils' performance?

Yours faithfully,
RUTH CHAMBERS,
University of Keele,
Centre for Primary Health Care,
Stoke Health Centre, Honeywell,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

From Mr Tom Cross

Sir, Your leading article of November 13, "Teaching the many", summarises precisely the malaise that infects schools today. Those of us who left

school to train teachers were required to subscribe to the post-Plowden progressivism that aborted all that was sound and purposive in traditional education.

You rightly call for addressing, as you put it, the philosophy that has produced unmanageable classes and those who teach them. It appears, however, not in the form of philosophy, which one could debate, but of social science.

The principles dominating teacher education — a supposed alternative to training — are social psychology and sociology, which require collectivist approaches to everything. Until a sensible balance is restored in what is held to be teacher education, we are going nowhere.

Yours faithfully,
TOM CROSS,
24 Windmill Drive,
Audlem, Cheshire.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Action needed to end court backlog

From Lord Donaldson of Lynton

Sir, The Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, in his annual review report, November 14, has said that it should be a cause for public concern that delays in the Court of Appeal (Civil Division) have reached a level which is inconsistent with the administration of justice.

So it should, but even more it should be a cause for self-reproach on the part of the Lord Chancellor and of the Government. As your report indicated, they were warned on numerous occasions, including the publication of the previous four annual reviews, that this is what would happen.

Their response was to cast doubt on the forecasts and to do too little too late. Thus the Master of the Rolls' plea for six additional judges as the minimum required to reduce the backlog was met by the appointment of only three.

Much has been achieved by the court itself by way of reducing oral argument and filtering out hopeless appeals. Nevertheless the current forecast that the backlog, and thus the delays, will continue to grow into the next century is now vouched for by statisticians from the Lord Chancellor's own department.

It is true that justice delayed is justice denied. What is less well known is that delay breeds delay. The known existence of the backlog encourages additional appeals designed primarily to postpone the day of judgment.

Two remedial measures are required at once. The first, designed to enable the existing judges to dispose of more appeals, is to give each professional assistance. This would be a novelty in this country, but is taken for granted in other common-law jurisdictions faced with similar pressures.

The second is to appoint more Lords Justices on a bold scale. Although individually they would have security of tenure, once the problem of the backlog was overcome their numbers could quickly be reduced by refraining from making good natural wastage.

The provision of effective machinery for the resolution of disputes between citizen and citizen and between citizens and the State is not an optional extra in a developed democracy. The Government should cease treating it as such.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. DONALDSON
(Master of the Rolls, 1982-92),
House of Lords,
November 15.

Commonwealth shifts

From Mr Anthony Verrier

Sir, At a time when the Commonwealth, despite the suspension of Nigeria's membership, may seem *passé*, its recent acceptance in principle of Mozambique's application for admission to its ranks is welcome.

However, as a footnote to history, may I recall that, when I was reporting the "Front Line States" meeting in Lusaka on the eve of the 1979 Commonwealth conference, an Angolan delegate asked me, in genuine bewilderment, "What is this Commonwealth? Can we join?" Something new out of Africa after all, if belatedly.

Maybe Angola, too, will join. Maybe the Commonwealth is about to enjoy a new lease of life, as a force for international, and regional mediation — and coercion. A Commonwealth peacekeeping role is not far-fetched: the monitoring force for Southern Rhodesia, which did a great deal to give Zimbabwe independence in 1980, should be reconstituted.

We might also recall, at a time when Nigeria is in the dock, that it was pressure from Lagos which played its part in the independence of Zimbabwe.

Yours etc,
ANTHONY VERRIER,
University of Essex,
Department of Government,
Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex,
November 15.

Brazilian economy

From the Ambassador of Brazil

Sir, Your editorial of November 10, entitled "Common action", states that "The Commonwealth has become too like Brazil: its supporters constantly speak of its potential because there is little to praise in its actual performance". This could have been said ten years ago, when Brazil was heavily constrained by foreign debt.

However, in the light of the economic progress which has taken place since then, particularly over the last ten months, it is far from fair.

Yours sincerely,
RUBENS ANTONIO BARBOSA,
Brazilian Embassy,
32 Green Street, W1,
November 10.

Beds for dunderheads?

From Mrs Cordelia Stamp

Sir, Ah! At last someone has solved the accommodation problem by filling his garden with thickly planted boarders ("How to make the garden sell the house", November 15).

I hope Mr Noel feeds them well.

Yours truly,
CORDELIA STAMP,
Headlands, 128 Uppang Lane,
Whitby, North Yorkshire,
November 16.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 18: The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, the Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's), today visited the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion at Swynnerton, Staffordshire.

Captain David Thompson was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 18: The Prince Edward this afternoon attended the Marriage Ceremony of Prince Joachim and Miss Alexandra Manby in the Chapel of Frederiksborg Castle, Hillerød, Denmark.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 18: The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence, RN, this afternoon attended the International Rugby Match between Scotland and Western Samoa at Murrayfield, Edinburgh.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 19: The Queen and the

Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Mr John Bather (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire) at the Memorial Service for Colonel Sir Peter Hilton held yesterday at St Mary's, Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

Prince Edward was represented by Lieutenant Commander Martin Bousier, the Princess Royal by Brigadier Patrick Hargrave.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by the Lord Kerr.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Nicolas Adamson.

Today is the 48th anniversary of the marriage of The Queen to the Duke of Edinburgh.

Birthdays today

Mr M.C. Alexander, writer, 75; Lord Archer of Sandwell, QC, 69; the Hon. Hugh Fraser, former deputy chairman, The Times, 75; Mr P.G. Badger, chief metropolitan stipendiary magistrate, 64; Mr Gareth Chilcott, rugby player, 39; Mr Alistair Cooke, journalist and broadcaster, 87; Brigadier B.T.V. Cowey, former rugby player, 84; Mr R.M. France, former MP, 84; Mr Alan Goodison, former director, Water Foundation, 69; Miss Nadine Gormley, author, 72; Miss Dulcie Gray, actress and author, 75; Mrs Penelope Hobhouse, horticulturist, 66; Mr Peter Jones, former MP, 84; Mr Para Khambra, MP, 71; Sir Michael Latham, former MP, 53; Mr J.A.S. McPherson, Lord Lieutenant of Grampian Region, 68; Sir Richard Morris, former chairman, Brown and Root, 70; Sir David Price, former MP, 71; Mr A.M. Rees, former Chief Constable, Derbyshire and Staffordshire police forces, 83; Mr Steve Smith, athlete, 23; Mr Wilfred Woolter, former cricketer and rugby player, 83.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Chatterton, the "boy poet", Bristol, 1732; John Wall Calcott, composer, Kensington, 1760; Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Prime Minister of Canada 1896-1911, St. Lin, Quebec, 1841; Edwin Hubble, astronomer, Marshfield, Missouri, 1889.

DEATHS: Caroline of Ansbach, consort of King George II, London, 1737; John Williams, missionary, murdered by cannibals, Erromanga, 1839; Anton Rubinstein, pianist and composer, Peterhof, Russia, 1894; Count Leo Tolstoy, writer, 1910; Alexandra, Queen Consort of King Edward VII, Sandringham, 1925; John Rushworth Jellicoe, 1st Earl Jellicoe, Admiral of the Fleet, Kensington, 1935; Francisco Franco, dictator of Spain 1939-75, Madrid, 1975.

Charles Stewart Rolls and Frederick Henry Royce formed Rolls-Royce, 1906.

The Nuremberg War Crimes trial of Nazis began, 1945.

Snowdonia was declared a National Park, 1951.

Nature notes

FROST and snow have set some birds on the move. Twites have come down from Scotland to salt marshes along the east coast of England: they are like drab linnets, except for the male's pink rump. Goldfinches are starting to cross the Channel, heading for France and Spain. Blackbirds are lurking under bushes, turning over the dead leaves: they are shy birds, only coming out into the open when driven by necessity. They were originally woodland birds, and have only ventured into town gardens during this century. Blue tits climb nimbly up tree trunks, teasing out insects from the bark like tree-creeper.

Leaves are much sparser on the trees, but those which are left are at their most colourful. On rowans, or mountain ash trees, the leaves are crimson and the berries scarlet.



The twit: Bewick knew it as the mountain linnit

London plane trees are spangled with many colours, especially in the wintry sunshine. Some Norway maples are as yellow as bananas.

A few night moths are still on the wing: one is the angle shades moth, which has fine green and brown markings, and curled edges to its wings. It looks just like a leaf that is changing colour, and in fact, rests on fallen leaves during the day.

DJM

Memorial services

Colonel Sir Peter Hilton
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Mr John Bather, Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire, at a memorial service for Colonel Sir Peter Hilton held yesterday at St Mary's, Wirksworth, Derbyshire.

Prince Edward was represented by Lieutenant Commander Martin Bousier, the Princess Royal by Brigadier Patrick Hargrave.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by the Lord Kerr.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Nicolas Adamson.

Today is the 48th anniversary of the marriage of The Queen to the Duke of Edinburgh.



Bill Mouquet and the Corpus Christi sundial that he and a colleague restored

Sundial brought back on time

THE Corpus Christi sundial is once again keeping time for contemplative Oxford students, thanks to the patient craftsmanship of a local sign writer. A sundial has stood at the centre of the college's quad since 1523, encouraging students to be punctual for tutorials.

The elements have taken their toll of the majestic 26ft column since it was last restored in 1976 and it was found to be telling the wrong time. Its painted dials and calendars had been stripped away by wind and rain, the vivid illuminated crests were drab and faded, and even the gilded pelican topping the structure was looking forlorn.

After restoration by building conservation experts, Bill Mouquet was called in to put the sundial back on time. By painstakingly tracing

every detail of what was left of the dials, he was able to put the 27 gnomons on the column back on time. Mr Mouquet, 64, who will retire in January after 49 years of painting signs, said: "It was the job of a lifetime. I can't think of a better way to finish off all these years than with something which is so much part of Oxford."

"I would not want to be responsible for making students late - so we took lots of photos and traced every line very precisely, measuring how far they were apart, to make sure it was spot on."

Mr Mouquet, who has worked for the Oxford firm Pim and Smart Signs since leaving school at the age of 16, and a colleague spent two weeks restoring the dial in the summer and are delighted with the result. "It looks spectacular," he said.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
Commodore J.H.A.J. Armstrong to be promoted Rear Admiral and to be Senior Naval Member on the Director Staff of the Royal College of Defence Studies, in succession to Rear Admiral J.F. Perowne in January.

The Army
BRIGADIER R.F. Meadham to Mod. 2011.95; M.J. Roycroft to Mod. 2011.95.
COLONEL P.C. Cook to be comd HQ Episkopi Gar. 24.11.95; R.V. Kelly to Mod. 2011.95; M.J.N. Richards to HQ Land South East (RAE), 21.11.95.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL W.A. Bailey, RE, to HQ MND, 24.11.95; I. Beck, SG, to RHQ, 24.11.95; J.C.D. Cook, RA, Ch. D., to HQ BPHK, 21.11.95; P.H. R.L. to HQ RLC TA, 21.11.95; K.R. Popple, AAC, to HQ Land, 22.11.95; A.F. Thomson, REME, to HQ Land, 20.11.95.

Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN R.F. Burroughs to HQ Nato, 20.11.95.
WING COMMANDER R.T. Cuthill to Winton, 6.11.95; D.J. Drew to Army Staff College, 6.11.95; A.N. Mitchell to Staff College, 6.11.95.

Retirements
GROUP CAPTAIN B.A. Wright, 22.11.95.
WING COMMANDER J.R. Jones, 5.11.95.

Reception

Wellesley House
The Headmaster and Mrs Richard Steel held a Reception on Thursday, November 16, at Trinity House by kind permission of The Deputy Master and Elder Brothers of Trinity House for Old Welleslians (1960-1985) and Friends of the School.

Dinners

Savoy Gastroscapes
Mr Herbert Struening, President of the Savoy Gastroscapes, presided at the 25th annual dinner held on Saturday at the Savoy Hotel.

St Mary's Hospital, London W2
The St Mary's Hospital Medical School Association held a dinner on Saturday, November 18, at the Grosvenor Hotel to mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of the hospital. The toast to the hospital was proposed by Professor D. Grahame-Smith, CBE, and the reply was given by Mr Gerald Fraser, Chairman of the Association, president.

Service dinners

Light Infantry Club (Cornwall)
The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall and Lieutenant W. Evans, USN, serving in HMS Cornwall were the principal guests at The Light Infantry Club (Cornwall) dinner held on Saturday at the Falmouth Hotel, Falmouth, Brigadier J.G. Williams presided.

Herfordshire Branch, RNA
Surgeon Rear Admiral E.E.P. Barnard and Dr Joan Barnard were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Herfordshire Branch of the Royal Naval Association held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Herford, on Saturday, Rear Admiral M.D. Kyrie, PO, Deputy Lieutenant for Herfordshire and Vice-President of the association, presided at the dinner.

Royal Naval Sailing Association
Admiral Sir Horace Law, a founder member, was the guest of honour at the Diamond Anniversary Dinner of the Royal Naval Sailing Association held in HMS Nelson on Friday, Vice-Admiral Sir Toby Frere, Commodore of the association, presided.

St John Ambulance
Mr Lewis Martin is appointed Executive Director of St John Ambulance from today in succession to Dr Duncan Macphie.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Adams
and Miss A. Culverwell
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Rear Admiral and Mrs John Adams, of The Oudry House, Burghclere, Berkshire, and Auriol, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Culverwell, of Bridges Court, Luckington, Wiltshire.

Mr M.J. Cawthorne
and Miss A.J. Leslie
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs Roy Cawthorne, of Lincoln, and Alison, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Leslie, of Langho, Lancashire.

Mr D.J.L. Crichton-Miller
and Miss R.M. Jones
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Neil Crichton-Miller, of London, and Rebecca Madryn, younger daughter of Dr Gareth Jones, of Bwlch, Powys, and Professor Anne Jones, of Henley-on-Thames.

Mr F.V. Goodwin
and Mrs A.J. Udale
The engagement is announced between Frederick, son of Brigadier and Mrs Frederick Goodwin, of Temple Guiting, Gloucestershire, and Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Denis Mann, of Hampton Wick, Kingston upon Thames.

Mr P.D. Hamilton
and Miss C.A. Southern
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr R.J.O. Hamilton, of Neston, Cheshire, and of Mrs O.D. Hamilton, of

Derna Hall, Burton, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Southern, of Kingsdown, Bristol.

Lieutenant R.J. King, RM
and Miss C.C. Verdin
The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Richard John King, RM, youngest son of Mr and Mrs T.T. King, of Brentwood, Essex, and Catherine Clare, elder daughter of Mr P.A. Verdin, of Lymington, Cheshire, and Mrs P.M. Verdin, of Altrincham, Cheshire.

Marriages

Mr A.J. Pinkney
and Miss M.C. Birch
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St James the Less, Westminster, of Mr James Pinkney, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Pinkney, of Westminster, to Miss Melanie Birch, daughter of Sir John and Lady Birch, of Oxfordshire. The Rev Jeremy Crossley officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Mary Sutherland and Miss Victoria Price. Mr Mark Robinson was best man.

A reception was held at Seaford House, Belgrave Square, and the honeymoon will be spent in St Lucia.

Mr J.P.R. Andrew
and Mrs P.C. Pope
The marriage took place on Friday, November 17, 1995, at St Mary's Church, Beversham, between Captain Ramsay Andrew and Peta-Caroly Pope.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will attend the Royal Variety Performance at the Dominion Theatre, London, at 7.35.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open an exhibition of Jain art from India at the Victoria and Albert Museum at 6.

The Princess of Wales will attend a gala evening at Bridgewater House, Cleveland Row, London, at 8, in aid of the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will visit Dundee Carers Centre, 21 Ward Road, Dundee, at 11, will attend a fund-raising luncheon at Stakis Dundee, Earl Grey Place, at noon; and, as Patron of the National Association of Victims Support Schemes, will attend the annual meeting at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, City of London, at 4.30.

Princess Margaret will open the Kinross Head Lighthouse Museum, Fraserburgh, Aberdeen, at 11.10.

The Duke of Kent, as co-patron, will attend the Anglo-Jordanian Society's biennial dinner at the Langham Hilton at 7.45.

Princess Alexandra, as president, will attend a reception given by the Imperial Cancer Research Fund at 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields at 6.30.

Moore for sale

A sculpture by Henry Moore, bought for £50,000 in 1951, is expected to make about £200,000 at a Phillips auction in London tomorrow. The 6 in high study of a family group was bought by Antony Gibbons Grindling, a fellow sculptor, who died in 1982. The Henry Moore Foundation at Much Hadham believes the cast is one of only two known.

University news

Oxford

Merton College
To Postmaster: H.T.F. Braun (formerly of Dulwich College); B.J. Curthoys (P. Chalmers's Grammar School); M. Gillin (Dr Chalmers's Grammar School); M.J.E. Miller (Eton College); J.B. Pester (Toronto University); J.E. Redman (Dauntsey's School); A.J. Renwick (St Paul's School); N.D. Thaker (Westcliff Boys' High School).

To Exile

Miss D. Birch (formerly of Vienna International School); Miss R.J. Cox (Watford Grammar School for Girls); A.S.W. Davies (Dame Allan's School, Newcastle-upon-Tyne); Miss S.J. Daykin (Little Heath School, Tilehurst); Miss A.J. Field (Northampton High School); Miss E.R. Hoddy (Oxford High School); M.A. Holmes (Hutton Grammar School, Preston); Miss S.L. Jones (Dame Alice Harpur School, Bedford); Miss L.A. Jodge (Dame Alice Harpur School, Bedford); Miss S.R. Kent-Smith (Millfield School); M.A. Kimber (Eton College); J.P. McEvoy (Ripon Grammar School); J. McManus (Tonbridge School); S. Moghaddasi (Egerton College); Miss E.M. Price (King Edward VI, Birmingham); N.A. Quinn (The Heathland School, Hounslow); D.J. Shapiro (Winchester College); C.M. Somorjai (Bristol Grammar School); N.D. Thapan (Alley's School); D.M.W. Wallace (Bedford School); R.H. Walters (Weston Favell Upper School).

Cambridge

Peterhouse
The following elections were held with effect from October 1: Official Fellow: J.M.B. Wallace (Newman and Clare). Supernumerary Fellowship: J.N.B. Carleton Page (Queens) and former Research Fellow (Peterhouse). Bye-Fellowship: R.D. St Johnston (Christ's College).

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

At that moment the cock crowed for the second time and Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will disown me three times".
Mark 14: 72 (REB)

BIRTHS

BARKER-HAHL - On 16th November, to David and Robin, a daughter, Lucy Flora, a sister for Charlotte.

BERTHETT TAYLOR - On 17th November, in the Franco-Britannique Hospital, Paris, to Lisa and Olivier, a daughter, Maximilienne Albert Auguste.

BURNING - On 27th October at the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong, to Louise (née Curran) and Mark, a son, Kofi Marko, a brother for Theo.

CHAVEN - Born to Aileen and Michael, at The Portland Hospital, on 11th November 1995, a beautiful daughter, Christina Alexandra Chaven.

DANESFIELD - To Sarah and Peter, on 16th November, a daughter, Amelia Rose.

SCOTT - On October 30th to Sarah and Gregor a son, Hugo Marcus Edward, a brother for Georgia, Sophia, Arabella, Rolo and a cousin for Rebecca and Carrie.

THORNTON - On 2nd November, to Pipa (née Bradley) and Jeremy, a lovely daughter, Georgia Lucy.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPER-DAVIDSON - At Chelsea Registry Office and St Mary's, Battersea, on November 20th, 1945, David Happer to Pauline Davidson.

DEATHS

ARCHBOLD - Peacefully at Croydon House Hospital, Kilmarnock, on Thursday 16th November 1995, Margaret Spence Archbold, 86, of Glasgow and Dair Ardsheire, and a beloved daughter of the late Hugh John Alexander Archbold and Mary McDougall, and dear sister of the family.

BRUNETT - Mortimer Without on 16th November 1995, peacefully in his sleep in his 86th year. Late of the Tower Theatre and London. Dearest beloved Uncle. Burial of ashes and memorial service at St. Mary's Parish Church, Bletchley, Bucks on Saturday December 9th at 12 noon. Enquiries to: Friends of Lower West 01825 873632

DEATHS

BATTERLEY - Suddenly at 11.15 on 17th November, aged 89 years, peacefully in Croydon Hospital. Dearest loved father of Lucy, Richard, Martin and Christopher. Service Wednesday 22nd November at 2 pm, prior to interment at Croydon Cemetery. All flowers and enquiries to: Mrs. J. Battersley, 60 Filton Road, Urmston, Manchester. Tel: 01243 782136.

BURTON - Peacefully on November 17th, Joan (House). Dearest loved mother of Susan and Christine and grandmother of Lucy, Richard, Martin and Christopher. Service Wednesday 22nd November at 2.00 pm, at Croydon Cemetery at 11.00 am. Flowers to: Edward Ward & Son, 5 South Pallant, Chichester. Tel: 01243 782136.

D'ABRU - On 16th November 1995, peacefully, Frank D'Abreu, F.R.C.S., beloved husband of Rose and dearly loved father and grandfather. Requiem Mass Monday 20th November 1995 at 10.30 am at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Park Road, W1. Flowers and enquiries to: A. France & Son Ltd Tel: 0171-492 4901.

FINNIGAN - On November 14 1995, Peter (Paddy) Finnigan, P.A. and British Ambassador, tragically while crossing the road, Much loved husband of Pao (Patricia) and father of Thea. Funeral at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium on Thursday November 23 at 12.30 pm. No flowers please. Donations if desired to Royal Artillery Association, Chesham House or British Airline Pilots Association, Beverlton Fund c/o Stannum Funeral Services, Dorset Court, Redhill, Surrey RH1 6AZ.

GILLMER - Bruce André, on 16th November in Prague. Funeral at Chichester Crematorium, Westmeadow Road, on Saturday 25th November at 2.00 pm. Donations to Amnesty International UK, 99-115 Rensbury Avenue, E21 18B or flowers to: Funeral Services, Peterfield Ltd, 19 The Square, Peterfield, Hants. Enquiries to: 01730 262711 or 01223 274348.

MCCOMB - Emma Hannah, passed away peacefully in a London Nursing home, on 18th November 1995 aged 94 years. Funeral service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, London EC2A 4EJ on Thursday 23rd November at 1.00 pm, followed by interment in the Churchyard.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

DEATHS

HOPKINS - Rev. Aubrey Evans, on 17th November, aged 89 years, peacefully in Croydon Hospital. Dearest loved father of Lucy, Richard, Martin and Christopher. Service Wednesday 22nd November at 2 pm, prior to interment at Croydon Cemetery. All flowers and enquiries to: Mrs. J. Battersley, 60 Filton Road, Urmston, Manchester. Tel: 01243 782136.

BURTON - Peacefully on November 17th, Joan (House). Dearest loved mother of Susan and Christine and grandmother of Lucy, Richard, Martin and Christopher. Service Wednesday 22nd November at 2.00 pm, at Croydon Cemetery at 11.00 am. Flowers to: Edward Ward & Son, 5 South Pallant, Chichester. Tel: 01243 782136.

D'ABRU - On 16th November 1995, peacefully, Frank D'Abreu, F.R.C.S., beloved husband of Rose and dearly loved father and grandfather. Requiem Mass Monday 20th November 1995 at 10.30 am at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Park Road, W1. Flowers and enquiries to: A. France & Son Ltd Tel: 0171-492 4901.

FINNIGAN - On November 14 1995, Peter (Paddy) Finnigan, P.A. and British Ambassador, tragically while crossing the road, Much loved husband of Pao (Patricia) and father of Thea. Funeral at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium on Thursday November 23 at 12.30 pm. No flowers please. Donations if desired to Royal Artillery Association, Chesham House or British Airline Pilots Association, Beverlton Fund c/o Stannum Funeral Services, Dorset Court, Redhill, Surrey RH1 6AZ.

GILLMER - Bruce André, on 16th November in Prague. Funeral at Chichester Crematorium, Westmeadow Road, on Saturday 25th November at 2.00 pm. Donations to Amnesty International UK, 99-115 Rensbury Avenue, E21 18B or flowers to: Funeral Services, Peterfield Ltd, 19 The Square, Peterfield, Hants. Enquiries to: 01730 262711 or 01223 274348.

MCCOMB - Emma Hannah, passed away peacefully in a London Nursing home, on 18th November 1995 aged 94 years. Funeral service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, London EC2A 4EJ on Thursday 23rd November at 1.00 pm, followed by interment in the Churchyard.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

MCCOMB - Caroline Margaret (Peggy), died peacefully at home in Wokingham, North. on 17th November after a short illness aged 95. Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's Church, Wokingham on Thursday 23rd November 1995 at 8 pm. No flowers but donations for R.N.I. or N.S.P.C.C. may be sent to John Lincoln, Funeral Director, 40 Greenacre, Ransington, North.

DEATHS

BECK - On 17th November, Rev. Aubrey Evans, on 17th November, aged 89 years, peacefully in Croydon Hospital. Dearest loved father of Lucy, Richard, Martin and Christopher. Service Wednesday 22nd November at 2 pm, prior to interment at Croydon Cemetery. All flowers and enquiries to: Mrs. J. Battersley, 60 Filton Road, Urmston, Manchester. Tel: 01243 782136.

BURTON - Peacefully on November 17th, Joan (House). Dearest loved mother of Susan and Christine and grandmother of Lucy, Richard, Martin and Christopher. Service Wednesday 22nd November at 2.00 pm, at Croydon Cemetery at 11.00 am. Flowers to: Edward Ward & Son, 5

OBITUARIES

ALAN HULL

Alan Hull, pop musician and founder member of Lindisfarne, died of a heart attack on November 19 aged 50. He was born on February 14, 1945.

THE presiding force behind the Georgie band, Lindisfarne, Alan Hull was singer, songwriter, guitarist and keyboard player for a musical quintet which, born out of pubs, and folk and working men's clubs, rose in the 1970s to become one of Britain's top sing-along bands. Their music, an easy blend of folk and rock with wistful lyrics and catchy harmonies, made them a natural for the big festivals.

They had already established a strong local following by the time they made their first chart breakthrough with the song *Meet Me On the Corner*, taken from their 1971 album *Fog on the Tyne*. The band rose to rapid fame, and despite a five-year split, regrouped successfully to survive throughout the 1980s until the present day.

However, Hull, the founding member of the band, was never the stereotype of a rock-and-roll idol, and always remained close to his working-class roots. A committed Labour supporter, he was secretary of his constituency party and zealously adopted a variety of left-wing and charitable causes. In 1983 his controversial single *Malvinas*, intended he said as "a criticism of war as a solution to disputes", sparked a angry reaction among Conservative MPs. The song, written from the standpoint of a British serviceman killed in the South Atlantic, was a bitter attack on patriotic fervour.

Hull also co-wrote a show called *Heads Held High* in 1986 to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Jarrow to London hunger march. Highlighting the problem of soaring unemployment, it was a blatant criticism of Thatcherite policies. He also travelled to Minsk in 1991 to perform in the Soviet Union's first ever Western-style charity concert to mark the fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. Even last year his new song *We Can Make It* was intended, he said, as "part of the North's campaign to convince people that there are so many skilled workers up here and that we've got something we can build on".

Alan Hull was born in Newcastle upon Tyne and educated at Rutherford Grammar School. His flair for music manifested itself at an early age. He started taking piano lessons at the age of nine, guitar lessons two years later, and wrote his first song when he was just 12 years old.

Leaving school at the age of 16, Hull began playing with local bands. But he soon grew disillusioned with the group scene and left to spend two years



working as a psychiatric nurse at St Nicholas's Mental Hospital in Newcastle. The human suffering he witnessed there was to inspire much of his later work, as did the boredom and fear he saw in the society around him. He himself lived at that time in a single rented room shared with his wife and two children. When he was working on nightshift he saw his family only in the early mornings, as a poignant song *Breakfast* was later to record.

In 1968 Hull returned to the music scene, setting out on a career as a singer and folk club manager. In 1969 he had a small success with a solo single *We Can Swing Together*, but this was not enough to support his family and in 1970 he started his own folk club, The Rex at Whitley Bay. Hull, with an eye for talent, was to book such future stars as Gerry Rafferty and Billy Connolly.

Hull himself played in a band called, first, *Downtown Faction* and then *Brethren* before finally launching himself in 1970 as Lindisfarne, named after Holy Island off the Northumbrian coast. Their first album *Nicely Out of Tune*, a brash mixture of folk and rock, had some success. But real fame came a year later with *Fog on the Tyne*, an album whose title track celebrated the gritty tragedy of Newcastle life

with lines such as "sitting in a sleazy snackbar sucking sickly sausage rolls." The attendant singer, *Meet Me on the Corner*, reached the UK top five in 1972.

From then on the rise to stardom was precipitous, perhaps too rapid. The group, dissatisfied with their third album *Dingy Dell*, began to feel the strain of creative tensions, exacerbated by a stressful American tour. Hull and Ray Jackson (who sang the vocals and played harmonica and mandolin) wanted to move away from the jamming and bluesy rock-and-roll towards which the other three members of the group were veering. In 1973, after just one year in the limelight, Lindisfarne split up.

Hull contemplated going solo and released a modestly successful album, but he was a naturally gregarious character and felt lonely on the road by himself. With typical Georgie pragmatism, he declared: "I'm not really good enough when there are solo artists like Bowie around."

Hull, Jackson and four other musicians joined to form a reconstituted Lindisfarne, which interspersed new material with old favourites. Hull, relieved of previous pressure of song-writing, also found time to write a book of poetry based on his experiences as a

psychiatric nurse. *The Mocking Horse*, published in 1973, sold widely.

In 1974 Hull's artistic talents branched out further when he was asked to take a leading role in a tough new television play, *The Squire*. The play had been written by Tom Pickard, a Newcastle poet and old mate of Hull's. The story, that of a working-class man on the dole who fantasises about becoming a squire, had some resonance for Hull. "When I read the script, I remembered my own struggle to make a living in Newcastle... Tom's fantasy was to be a squire. Mine was to be John Lennon."

Meanwhile, the new Lindisfarne had released a number of mildly promising albums including *Roll on Ruby* in 1973 and *Happy Daze* in 1974. But it was only in 1978 when the original band was persuaded to regroup that real success was to return, albeit briefly. The first album after their reconstitution was a hit, enjoying a UK top-ten single in *Run For Home*, a song which told the story of what had happened since the band had split up.

Lindisfarne were subsequently unable to repeat this success and in 1987 plummeted to an artistic nadir with *C'mon Everybody*, a medley of rock-and-roll favourites which received rough reviews.

In 1990 Lindisfarne enjoyed another brief return to the UK charts when they joined with their fellow Georgie, and England international footballer, Paul Gascoigne, then basking in the afterglow of the World Cup. A second-rank reworking of *Fog on the Tyne* reached number two.

In the last five years chart appearances were only occasional but the band still retained loyal support in the North East, and fans flooded to their annual Christmas concert. This year Lindisfarne celebrated their silver anniversary, playing at the venue where they had made their debut appearance, Newcastle City Hall.

Hull always remained faithful to his working-class Georgie roots. He lived with his family in a spacious Victorian terraced house near the coast where a number of Timeside artists and musicians had gravitated in the 1980s. The drawing room, decked out like a pub with bar, juke box and pool table, was known as The Dog and Shoe by friends who went up to drink there after closing hours. Hull, as landlord, imposed his own rules: no smoking across the pool table and pound coins to be placed face down — "so I don't have to look at the Queen, I'm totally against royalty". Lining the walls, framed newspaper cuttings and gold and silver discs bore witness to a resilient music career.

Alan Hull is survived by his wife Pat, and their three daughters.

PIERRE HENFREY

Pierre Henfrey, assistant film director, died on November 1 aged 75. He was born on September 30, 1920.



PIERRE HENFREY enjoyed a long career in documentary film-making. He worked for 15 years at the Film Producers' Guild and later for the National Coal Board's film unit. In the public eye, documentary film-making lacks the glamour of feature film production, and Henfrey's name was not well known to a wider public. But in the industry he was regarded as a safe pair of hands and as an assistant director he worked with many of the big names in documentaries. His exploits became the stuff of legend.

Pierre George Henfrey was born in Barnes, the son of a businessman. His mother came from northern France and he retained strong links with that country, eventually retiring there. He was educated at St George's, Weybridge, and at Reading University. There, because of a distinguished botanist in the family, he was encouraged to read botany.

But, having left, he was free to pursue his own interests in the arts. He was exempt from war service because of poor health, but an actress friend suggested that, with his maitre-idol looks, he should have been in the films himself. Henfrey agreed, but decided to make his life behind the camera.

He got his grounding in all technical aspects of film-making at Denham Studios during the war. He worked on both *In Which We Serve* (1942) and *Brief Encounter* (1945). Trevor Howard, who starred in the latter, remained a friend. A brief spell at Pinewood was then followed in 1950 by 15 years at the Film Producers' Guild, the documentary film-makers' company. There he worked on hundreds of projects, from 15-minute shorts to big musicals like *Jam Session* made for Rowntrees.

There were also documentaries on the herring fleet, the

atomic and iron and steel industries and the award-winning *The Stable Door* for the British Insurance Association.

As an assistant director his job was to liaise between producers, who had their eye on a budget, and the more creative side of film-making. In any argument between the two camps Henfrey would automatically be on the side of the underdog. Never was this more clearly seen than when Henfrey took his crew to Alexandria, at the beginning of his time with the Film Producers' Guild in the early 1950s. Moved by the pitiful sight of a local amputee beggar, Henfrey bravely deposited the entire budget for the film — £600 — into the beggar's bowl. When news of this reached London, it was decided that Henfrey would not be sacked but must be kept on — if only to repay the entire sum, slowly, out of his subsequent earnings.

Henfrey left the Film Producers' Guild in 1965 and joined the National Coal Board's film unit. He remained there until the early

1980s, a valued member of the team and one of the few men in the unit who had wider experience of the film industry.

But, again, Henfrey's impractical streak led him into conflict with the authorities and eventually brought his time there to a close. Having descended into a mineshaft with his crew for a day's filming, Henfrey became separated from the others. He was discovered by an anxious rescue mission towards the end of the day several miles into an abandoned seam. He was calmly smoking his pipe, oblivious of the safety hazard this in itself constituted, let alone the panic he had caused above ground.

He left the NCB in 1980. The 1980s included a documentary on marmalade-making and the writing of a script on China. He spent the last six years of his life in the Gers in southwest France and had been ill with cancer.

He is survived by his companion of the past 28 years Anna Bennett, an adopted son and by two sons from a previous marriage.

WILLIAM BRIAN YOUNG

William Brian Young, MBE, former Director of Radiology at the Royal Free Hospital, died in Edinburgh on November 15 aged 82. He was born on February 12, 1913.



SHORTLY after the turn of the century an 18-year-old English girl named Ellen Elisabeth Long made a five-week journey on the Trans-Siberian railway to take up a position as governess to the British Consul-General in Shanghai. At that time, the Royal Ulster Constabulary shared the responsibility for policing imperial outposts and Stewart Young was Deputy Commissioner of Police in Shanghai. They married in 1910 and had three sons. Terence, the middle son, a renowned film producer, died in 1994.

Bill, the eldest, was sent to school at Weymouth College. His uncle, a doctor, was his guardian and kindled his interest in medicine. They saw patients together and young Bill was assisting with anaesthetics at the age of 14. If his own account is to be believed, his medical undergraduate years (at St Peter's Hall, Oxford, and St Thomas' Hospital, London) were spent either at St Enoch or on the London-Cornwall road "with the golf clubs in the boot of the Bentley" — presumably somebody else's Bentley at that time (his own was acquired somewhat later).

After graduation and the outbreak of war, he worked with the Emergency Medical Service in London but soon found himself back in the Far East as medical officer to the Malay Regiment. He was wounded in the elbow and

was a patient himself when Singapore fell and Japanese soldiers entered the hospital. He wisely declined to leave his bed (those who did were not seen again) and spent the next three-and-a-half years as a prisoner of war. He was appointed MBE (military) but, like others, spoke very little of the hardships he and his patients had endured.

Young's injury partially paralysed his hand and in his view put paid to his desire for a career in surgery, although he did subsequently become a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. In the meantime, however, the late Dr James Bull (a fellow POW) had interested him in radiology. He became a Fellow of the Faculty of Radiologists of the Royal College of Surgeons in England. He had responsibility for radiology services in further tours of duty in Malaya and Singapore, this time with the Colonial Medical Service, and he kept in touch with radiologists from the Far East until his retirement.

He was Director of Radiology at the Royal Free Hospital

for 20 years until his retirement in 1978, first in Gray's Inn Road and then at Hampstead after the 1974 relocation. He planned and commissioned the new X-ray department there. He was active in private practice as well, notably as Director of Radiology at the Wellington Hospital, and in Harley Street.

He was a gracious and lavish host, as well as a wonderful raconteur, and parties in his tenth floor flat overlooking Lord's often coincided with Test matches. The fare was likely to be fish and game, which he had brought back from Scotland. He took up fishing in middle life and persevered though success came more easily with the gun and, during the shooting season, he was frequently to be seen in Harley Street delivering a brace to a friend or colleague.

He was also a good golfer, representing St Thomas'. Entertaining friends at the Berkshire he usually brought his dog along so that his guests would not have to trouble themselves looking for lost balls in the rough. He followed other sports keenly, especially rugby and cricket, but his health curtailed active participation.

That he survived his captivity in the war years was remarkable enough. But he also overcame two separate malignancies. He suffered rheumatic fever as a teenager, as well as three of his serious complications in middle life, including a valve replacement. His heart had begun to fail in recent months but he bravely took his chances with a further operation.

He is survived by his wife Pam, and by a daughter and son from his first marriage.

MIRON GRINDEA

Miron Grindea, OBE, Editor of *Adam*, 1935-95, died on November 18 aged 86. He was born in Moldavia on January 31, 1909.



MIRON GRINDEA will be remembered as one of the longest-serving editors of modern times. He launched his bilingual literary and cultural magazine *Adam* in Paris in 1935 and, under his vigilant if sometimes erratic supervision, it miraculously survived for 60 years. He was working on its 500th issue at the time of his death.

Throughout *Adam's* existence Grindea, enjoying only irregular secretarial help, did everything himself — from commissioning to proof-reading — and (apart from a short period when the magazine was supported by the University of Rochester in Upper New York State) was the beneficiary of no financial backing.

A Romanian by birth, Miron Grindea Grunberg — he changed his name on arriving in England just before the war — was educated at the University of Bucharest and at the Sorbonne. During the war he worked for the Ministry of Information and for the BBC European services. But, for the most part, the financial stability of his household depended on his wife Carola, whom he had married in 1936, and who worked as a music teacher at the Guildhall School of Music and as a concert pianist. Yet somehow — as if fed by the

ravens in the wilderness — *Adam* kept coming out.

In particular, Grindea could claim to have been a pioneer in bringing distinguished South American writers, such as Borges, Ricardo Molinari, Jorge Carreras Andrade, before the British reading public. He was wholly indifferent to money and once, on being told by a friend that these early exploratory issues were selling second-hand at £10, immediately sent that impecunious friend a copy as

a gift. The various memorial numbers he went in for — there was a splendid one on Dylan Thomas — were genuine works of scholarship, frequently containing unpublished photographs and original contributions of great freshness. (His archive was eventually bought by King's College London, which also established an annual *Adam* lecture.)

It was because of Grindea's passion for literature — and, indeed, for the arts generally

the magazine's title was a somewhat strained acronym for Arts, Drama, Architecture and Music) — that figures as celebrated as Edith Sitwell, Anthony Powell, Graham Greene and even Churchill found themselves writing for it for fees that were either non-existent or nugatory. Essentially, its editor was an enthusiast — in this remaining to the end typically Central European. It was this aspect of his personality which enabled him to break down the resistance of Anglo-Saxons — although, with his talent for excessive flattery, he could sometimes raise hackles, too.

At his home in Emperor's Gate off the Cromwell Road, where he had lived for fifty years, he did not so much give parties as hold salons. There would usually be some literary lion present but there would always be a collection of unknown writers as well. Such gatherings tended not to be wholly convivial. Grindea disapproved of the habit of heavy social drinking and would open bottles only late and reluctantly, often quite unselfconsciously immediately putting the cork back in any bottle that he had been forced to broach.

He also disliked the English custom of people pairing off at parties: any two chattering guests would rapidly find themselves separated and confronted with some dingly obscure European visitor with whom they would be expected to converse haltingly in a language native to neither party.

If, in face of all these difficulties, the gathering began to show dangerous signs of loosening up, the host would tiptoe around — his hands held together as if in prayer but with the fingertips pointed eloquently downwards — until some stroke of inspiration came to him, such as calling for his wife to sit at the piano and play: given her professional standards, this could generally be counted upon to preserve decorum. The expression of alarm — at the prospect of his guests actually enjoying themselves rather than improving their minds — would then disappear from Grindea's face.

But if even his friends sometimes laughed at Grindea behind his back, they did so with affection (though sometimes, admittedly, mixed with exasperation). If he was an out-of-the-way person, he was equally an exceptional editor who kept a small magazine afloat at a time when better-known titles had all sunk beneath the waves. One of those who recognised his achievement was Cyril Connolly, whose own *Horizon* had lasted little more than a decade. It was only fitting that one of *Adam's* best issues should have been published in memory of Connolly — who had generously acknowledged the uniqueness of what Grindea had managed to do. His adopted country also did so eventually — Grindea being appointed MBE in 1977 and advanced to OBE in 1986.

He is survived by his wife and daughter.

Church news

Latest appointments include: Prebendary John Deakin to retire as Rector, Cotes Heath, W. Sandon (Lichfield) as from October 31, and to be appointed Resident Minister (NSM), Enville (to be known as Vicar in Enville), same diocese. The Rev Robin Denison, retired, to be Priest-in-charge (NSM), Great Tew with Little Tew, Over Worton with Netter Worton (Oxford). The Rev Stephen Elstob, Team Vicar, Upholland (Liverpool), to be Vicar, Kirkcubright (York). The Rev Simon Grigg, Assistant Curate, St James, West Hampstead, and St Mary with All Souls, Kilburn, to be Vicar, Christ Church, St Mary Magdalene, Munster Square (London). The Rev Murray Haig, Team Rector, Crumlin, to be also an Honorary Canon of Newcastle Cathedral. The Rev David Herrick, Vicar, Bury St Edmunds, St George, to be Priest-in-charge, Great Barton, (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich). The Rev Hazel Hughes, Priest-in-charge, Writtleham and Chaplain to

People with a Mental Handicap (Worcester), to be also an Honorary Canon of Worcester Cathedral. The Rev Clive Jones, Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Pendlebury (Manchester), to be Vicar, Aisleborough (Coventry). The Rev Dr Gordon Kendall, General Secretary, Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius, Oxford, to be Vicar, St Anne and All Saints, South Lambeth (Southwark). The Rev Neil MacGregor, Rector, Wem with Lee, Brockhurst, and Priest-in-charge, Loppington in Wem, to be also Rural Dean of Wem and Whitechurch (Lichfield). The Rev Canon Hugh Marshall, Chief Secretary, Advisory Board of Ministry, Church House, Westminister, to be Vicar, Wendover (Oxford). The Rev Pauline Millward, Assistant Curate (NSM), St John's, Warley, to be Priest-in-charge, St Hilary's, Halifax and Halifax Town Missioner (Wakefield). The Rev Andrew Montgomerie, Team Vicar, St Michael, Solihull, to

be Priest-in-charge, St Peter, Balsall Common (Birmingham). The Rev Graham Newton, Vicar, Sevenage, Holy Trinity, to be Team Rector, Dunstable (St Albans). The Rev David Osborn, Team Vicar, Langtree Team Ministry, to be Team Rector, Langtree Team Ministry (Oxford). The Rev Julian Ould, Rector, Peakirk with Gilmorton, to be Rector of the Isles of Scilly (Truro). The Rev Samuel Ritchie, Chaplain, HM Prison, Wymon, to be Priest-in-charge, Helmingham with Framden and Penuag with Winstan (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich). The Rev Julian Scharf, Priest-in-charge, West Ham, to be Vicar, West Ham (Chelmsford). Canon Gordon Taylor, Vicar, Beighton, Sheffield, to be Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Goole (Sheffield). The Rev Phillip Tovey, Team Vicar, Banbury, Team Ministry, with responsibility for St Francis LEP, to be Team Vicar, Wheatley Team Ministry, with responsibility for

Holton, Waterperry, Waterslack and Albury (Oxford). The Rev John Truman, Chaplain of Ackington Prison and Team Leader of the Ackington and Castington Chaplaincy Teams, to be also an Honorary Canon of Newcastle Cathedral (Newcastle). The Rev Paul Whitehead, Assistant Curate, Mansfield Woodhouse, to be Associate Priest, St Paul's, Carlton with special responsibility at Colwick (Southwell). The Rev Richard Willcock, Rector, Framlingham in Saxond, to be also Rural Dean of Loes (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich). The Rev Keith Williams, Assistant Curate (NSM), Netherfield with Colwick, to be Associate Priest (NSM), Gedling, with special responsibility at Netherfield (Southwell). The Rev Michael Wright, to be Priest-in-charge, St Edmund's, Anchorage Lane, Doncaster, and part-time Chaplain in Doncaster Royal and Monagu Hospitals (Sheffield).

THE BRILLIANT FRIGATE

To the Editor of The Times

Sir, A trifling error having crept into your account relative to Captain Blackwood's gallant action with two French frigates in July 1st, I beg you will be pleased to publish the following relation. Its authenticity may be thoroughly relied on: Captain Blackwood, of His Majesty's frigate *Brilliant*, of 28 guns, being on his return from Lisbon to Newfoundland, was driven by adverse winds and tempestuous weather in sight of the island of Tenerife.

On the day following (27th July), Capt. B. was tempted to look close into the Bay of Santa Cruz, with a view to discover whether or not a French privateer, which he had chased the preceding evening, might not be at anchor there. To his utter surprise, he saw two large French frigates at anchor, who immediately slipped their cables, and came out in pursuit of him.

Captain B. had soon the mortification to find that he had no hope of escape. In

ON THIS DAY

November 20, 1798

The present frigate HMS *Brilliant*, familiar to television viewers, bears the name of a distinguished but lesser-known predecessor.

this distressing dilemma, he at once determined to do his duty as a British officer, and leave the rest to Providence. It would be taking up too much of your paper were I to enter into detail: suffice it to say, that no man ever displayed more skill and bravery than Captain B. on this most trying occasion, and that after a conflict of one hour with the first frigate that came up, and sustaining near another hour's cannonading from them both (the *Brilliant* at this latter period being becalmed and unable to

bring a single gun to bear on the enemy), he, by mere dint of seamanship, weathered so far on his opponents, as to get without the reach of their guns.

Your most obedient humble servant,
A True Friend to Merit

Saturday morning his Majesty, attended by a number of Noblemen, rode to Ascot Heath, where a famous deer was turned out for the day's diversion.

Taking first for the New Mile Course, he ran by Shrub Hill for Blackness, and turning back, made for Swinley, the hounds keeping close at his heels, following him across the Camp ground to Waltham Common, where he crossed the Thames at Down Place.

Being met by the sportsmen on the other side, he made for the stable near Dancy, where he was taken last year, which being shut, he set off and got into the Thames again by the heights, near Monkey's Island, where the dogs kept him at bay, and tiring him out, he was taken by the people in pums.

